



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



Love



Yourself

WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

GAY PRIDE _ WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night -- it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant bagle (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement!") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSLD (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms -- they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" -- those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared -- Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Gimme a "G" " "Gimme an "A" " "Gimme a "Y" -- Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!"

CSLD handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: For the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day.

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction...Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day -- yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.

DID YOU HEAR...

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW?

1. Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.
2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest room, people seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. *Gay Pride* is a good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?
5. Bring someone to the Rap Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the raps, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure YOU welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

"Jim has very seldom seen me without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyelashes."

*Tammy Faye Bakker,
wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker,
in the forthcoming book Christian Wives*

"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. It has no place for amusement parks."

*Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart,
denouncing colleague Jim Bakker,
president of the PTL Network and religious theme
park, upon revelations that Bakker had cheated on his
wife and submitted to blackmail*

"You erred by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakkers have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and an albatross to legitimate religion."

*Letter to the Editor,
Time (4/20/87)*

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a sad mistake"

*Dr. Alan Xenokis,
health expert at WNEV/Boston,
on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV*

"Bombing is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game."

*Lieutenant Commander Beth Hubert,
U.S. Navy pilot*

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals, of the young and the old, of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on."

C. Everett Koop

FROM THE PASTOR

Sometimes church members -- or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes -- ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone visits the church we see to it that the usher hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry -- in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "From the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

"In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr."

"The UFMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital."

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the "Briggs Initiative" which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978."

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people -- of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern."

"At our General Conference in 1983, UFMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregational and denominational levels."

cont'd on p. 4

**Resist
Temptation,**

**Play
Safe!**



**IT TAKES
COURAGE
TO ADMIT
TO YOUR
DRUG OR ALCOHOL
PROBLEM.**

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

METROPOLITAN CHURCH AT MOBILE 4500 Blt & Spur Road (West Mobile) Sunday services: 7:00 PM Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location) Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	476-9142
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP 6345 Old Shell Road (West Mobile) Sunday services: 10:45 AM	342-6834
MOBILE AIDS FUND P. O. Box 1491 Mobile, Alabama 36601	
CLUB PARK AVENUE 7 South Joachim Street Disco - Show Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos Total Entertainment Complex	433-9103
THOOPERS 215 Conti Street Cruise Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos	438-9139
THE CORAL 54 South Conception Street Neighborhood Bar - Pool - Videos	433-9258
GOLDEN ROD 219 Conti Street Dancing - Pool - Videos - Music	433-9175
THE SOCIETY LOUNGE Disco - Show Bar - Pool - Videos - Music	433-8184

FROM THE PASTOR - Continued

"At that same conference, two other resolutions were passed in support of a freeze on nuclear weapons -- world peace and justice are urgent concerns of our world-wide fellowship.

"In this day of theological debate and sociological struggle for the status of women in a number of Christian denominations and Jewish communities, it is significant to note that UFMCC is committed to eradicating sexism in its theology, structure, and language as well as its relationship between men and women. At the 1981 General Conference, UFMCC passed specific guidelines for the use of inclusive language in its worship and life.

"Guided by this image of its life and mission, UFMCC has spread around the world with over 200 churches and has hundreds of active clergy and lay leaders and nearly 50,000 members, friends and adherents... Perhaps the mission of UFMCC can best be summarized in the words of Elder Emeritus John Hose, "Never losing sight of Jesus' remarkable invitation to all humankind, we have proceeded with dignity, perseverance and veracity to proclaim 'Freedom and justice for all' by the Grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ."



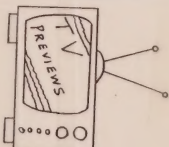
Kitchen tips

Share your deepest, darkest secret.... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin Restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

CHAB PATE

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 8 oz. fresh crab meat
- 1 10-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 4 ribs of celery, finely chopped
- 1 small white onion, finely chopped
- 1 envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatine in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a shaping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with triscuits or your favorite cracker.



HARD CHOICE (1984) Margaret Klonek, John Selts. A social worker with a "rich hippie" background meets a poor 15-year-old Tennessee mountain boy facing trial as an adult for murder. Rick King wrote and directed this drama. HBO, May 11, '91, 21, 29.

I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM (1986) An adopted sixteen-year-old girl searches for her biological father. The contemporary drama focuses on how her investigation affects her adoptive parents, and how she is received by her natural father and mother. SHO, May 12, '91, 81, 87.

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT COUNTS (1974) Vincent Price, Britt Lumber, Leigh Jackson. An unusual tale about the strange relationship between a man and a woman who gains-on prove to be nothing short of hilarious. SHO, May 11, '91, 26, 29.

MAKING LOVE (1982) Vase Jackson, Michael O'Brien, Betty Hamilton. Jackson portrays a woman who goes into shock after discovering that her husband of eight years has homosexual tendencies (on no). O'Brien is the talented young doctor who decides to open his tale. HBO, May 3, '91, 6, 31.

FOR MY AFFECTION (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual. Some modest change holders. HBO, May 22, '91, 50, 51.

READER WRITES THAT BUMPER STICKERS ARE OBJECTIONABLE
(The following letter was received from a reader who wishes to remain anonymous. I personally find it very thought provoking.)

This letter is in reference to the red and white bumper stickers that are displayed around the state of Florida. XXXX Happens. When not for those real macho guys (?) or women who want to be out front, I feel sorry for them. I went through the teenage stage where the vocabulary is explored. I also outgrew it. I played high school sports. I've been in the locker room, I've heard all the big, bad curse words. But we outgrew that, too.

Come on, folks, are we really that uncouth? Have we degenerated down to nothing? I have a little old grandmother who can still operate a car and drive (no wrecks, no violations or even out of gas.). I have that she has to put up with those "XXXX Happens" bumper stickers. I also know of a few really good children out there who have not been exposed to gutter talk, filth and profanity.

How about it? Will some of you pull those "XXXX Happens" stickers off your car, at least if you drive on public roads?

Name withheld by request

POLL INDICATES THAT AIDS THIRD-BIGGEST CONCERN OF YOUTH

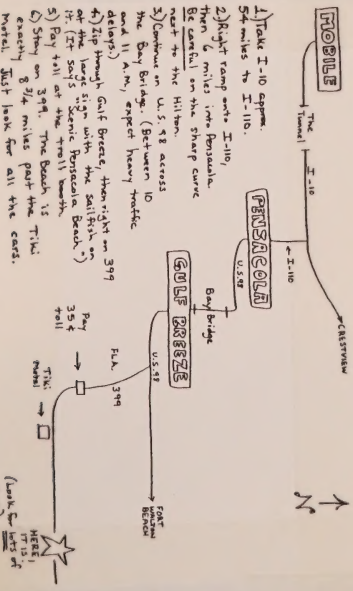
A nationwide poll of young people aged 9-17 indicates that AIDS is the third-biggest concern of youth, after the fear of kidnapping and the threat of nuclear war. The American Child Youth Poll of 1,000 kids, conducted by the Roper Foundation, also revealed that the majority of adolescents favor allowing gays to teach.

United Press International reported that the poll also found, of the respondents: 1) 59% said they are very concerned about the spread of AIDS, while 20% said they are somewhat concerned and 10% claimed not to be very much concerned. 2) 40% said students with AIDS should be allowed in schools, whereas 43% said they should not.

* 49% of teen-age respondents said gays should be allowed to be teachers, while 41% offered the opposite view. 8% said they didn't know. * 1% said they did not know what homosexuals are.

SECRET ORDER OF OYSTERS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24

The Order of Oysters is sponsoring a beach happening at the "Gay Beach," east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:



DYNAMICS of BIBLICAL FAITH

Faith is not something totally intellectual, like finding the answer to a math problem. The old priest in "The Exorcist" came close to the idea of biblical faith when he said:

"I think belief in God is not a matter of reason at all; I think it finally is a matter of love, accepting the possibility that God could love us."

Biblical faith is loving trust in God—even in the face of intellectual difficulties. For example, when God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham's human reason told him that Isaac was the vehicle by which God's earlier promises to him would be carried out. Had he relied solely on reason, he would have put aside his trust in God. But he DID NOT. He chose to trust even in the face of deep intellectual turmoil.

Because biblical faith involved loving trust, it also demanded personal risk. A good example today is the uncertainty in relationships. Neither can be absolutely sure the other person will be there should major difficulties arise. We have no intellectual certainty.

Biblical faith was something like this. It always involved a knowledge gap that loving trust alone could bridge.

Biblical faith is pictured as an ongoing process. The biggest mistake a person can make is to think that some day s/he will "get the faith" and never have any more questions about it.

Psychology makes an interesting observation here. Consider this statement by a young man: "One day I decided to make God the center of my life. This decision gave me unbelievable peace and joy. But, two days later, I did something that no believer would ever do. I was totally discouraged and concluded that I had not really committed myself to God at all. I had only psyched myself into believing I had." But then I

realized something important. I realized that when we commit ourselves to God, we commit only that part of ourselves which we are aware of at the moment. That's all anyone can do."

Psychology tells us that the greater part of ourselves lies below our consciousness. It surfaces only gradually with each new experience. This means that we are constantly evolving and changing as individuals. Thus, Faith-Commitment is never achieved by one decision on one occasion. It is an ongoing process.

Biblical faith involved periods of darkness. It had a way of going in and out of focus. Many of us modern believers report similar experiences. There are times when our faith seems to go behind a cloud, even seems lost. We undergo a "dark night of the soul," a kind of "trial by fire" as Abraham did.

The remarkable thing about is that after being in doubt or totally lost for a time, faith recovered or faith renewed is often much stronger and more powerful.

This is why we in MCC who have been through our faith crises and intellectual dilemmas and regained our belief, or gained new beliefs which have grown out of our past faith, have an unshakable faith which nothing can move. We have proved for ourselves the claim that Father Mark Link makes [above] in These Stones Will Shout.

THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY
AND ESPECIALLY GOLDEN ROD & THE
SOCIETY LOUNGE FOR RAISING \$600
FOR THE
MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!!



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GAY PRIDE

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

LESBIAN:

To have an erotic preference for members of one's own sex. Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences. If one is a woman.

CLOSET:

A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life: closetedness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

GAY:

Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

GAY IDENTITY:

A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community.

GAY PRIDE:

Positive gay identification: used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

HOMOPHOBIA:

A word coined by George Weinberg (Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

HOMOPHOBIC:

Dr. Alice Farnessey, Columbia University, has found that most homophobes (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression:

HOMOSEXUAL OPPRESSION:

1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.
2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply only until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what homophobes do not choose to deal with or which frighten them.
3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.)

OPPRESSION SICKNESS:

The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-use, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

LATERAL OPPRESSION:

The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group: i.e., repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

TALKING LIBERATION (Continued)

GHETTOLIZATION:

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run-down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

GENTRIFICATION:

THE HOLOCAUST:

GAY LIBERATION:

HOMOPHILE:

A lover of gay people: the desire to be with, enjoy the association with gay/lesbian people in a positive environment.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION:

Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1897 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years. (Sometimes called Feminism). In 1838, Sarah Moore Grimké, later to be one of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimké Weld, said: "I ask no favors for my sex, all I ask of my brethren is that they take their feet from off our necks." The social, civil, religious, and sexual equality of women: social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation.

ACTIVIST:

A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a social group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

MCC IS PEOPLE CARING ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn
we do not condone
we try to understand

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition... (in that) when lepers were cured, they were touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history."



Be sure to
give me your
love

B	I	N	G	O
8	2 4	4 3	5 5	7 2
1 2	1 6	3 8	5 2	6 8
7	2 7	4 4	6 0	7 5
4	2 1	3 5	5 4	7 3
1 5	3 0	4 5	5 6	6 9

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

35,068 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC**
as of April 27, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10,060	Minnesota	192
New York City	9,720	Arizona	181
California	7,863	Indiana	154
San Francisco	3,444	Oregon	154
Los Angeles	3,002	South Carolina	129
Florida	2,337	Hawaii	126
Miami	1,029	Wisconsin	111
Fl. Lauderdale	414	Alabama	108
Texas	2,255	Oklahoma	105
Houston	1,134	Tennessee	103
Dallas	641	Nevada	87
New Jersey	2,119	Kentucky	79
Newark	844	Rhode Island	70
Jersey City	410	Kansas	68
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1,010	Utah	60
Illinois	867	Arkansas	56
Chicago	769	New Mexico	55
Pennsylvania	754	Delaware	48
Philadelphia	614	Mississippi	46
Georgia	716	Maine	42
Atlanta	562	Iowa	41
Massachusetts	708	New Hampshire	28
Boston	522	Nebraska	27
District of Columbia	643	Alaska	25
Maryland	526	West Virginia	25
Colorado	425	Vermont	13
Louisiana	421	Idaho	9
Connecticut	408	Montana	8
Virginia	402	North Carolina	7
Colorado	360	Wyoming	7
Ohio	351	North Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	328	South Dakota	4
Michigan	316	Guam	1
Missouri	221	Trust Territory	1
North Carolina	210	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	493

Of these, 20,241 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

ALABAMA?
75 LAST MONTH
108 THIS MONTH

not reported by the CDC do not conform to its strict definition, and are therefore not officially counted or reported.

In 1981, 261 cases of AIDS were counted by the CDC.

In 1982, 999 were counted.

In 1983, 2,765 were counted.

In 1984, 5,531 were counted.

In 1985, 9,484 were counted.

In 1986, 10,021 were counted.

** The AIDS cases officially reported by the Centers for Disease Control reflect approximately only 10 percent of the actual number of AIDS cases in the United States. The tens of thousands of other AIDS cases

Did Tammy Faye Do 'Monster Mash' Behind Jimmy's Back?

WASHINGTON — More in the endless saga of PTL clubbers Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker. Now it seems that Tammy Faye was carrying on with country and western singer/songwriter, Gary Paxton, famous for his musical compositions: *Alley Oop*, and *The Monster Mash*. Paxton, who produced Tammy Faye's late-70 albums, was said to spend many late nights with the songwriter. This, reported the singer's ex-wife this week, led Jimmy to repeatedly call the Paxton home and make threats to Paxton. *Charisma*, a Pentecostal magazine, reported that this was what prompted Bakker into his sexual tryst with Jessica Hahn. Also this week: revelations that Hahn was "recruited" into having sex with Bakker by another fundamentalist preacher who, after having sex with Hahn himself, went on to preach on television and state, "God really ministered to us today." To which Bakker replied, "Yes I need more rest like that." This thing gets more sordid by the minute, doesn't it?

Spanish Lesbians Stage Kissing Protest

MADRID, Spain — Last January, two lesbians were arrested for contempt, resisting arrest and public offense for kissing in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol. When they were approached by the officer and asked for identification, an argument ensued which led to the eventual arrests. The women were held in a high security facility for 48 hours before they were released. They reportedly were mistreated and ridiculed repeatedly while in custody. The next week, several hundred lesbians gathered at the site of the arrest and staged a mass kiss-in. The peaceful protest saw the women chanting slogans of gay and lesbian oppression and encouraging passers-by to kiss them.

CULTURAL ARTS CALENDAR SUMMER 1987

MAY 11	City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Washington Square.
MAY 14-17	"Noises Off," Theatre Arts/Drama Department, University of South Alabama, Monty L. Mooror Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM.
MAY 15	John H. Chester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South Alabama Music Department, Humanities Building Auditorium, 815 PM.
MAY 21	University of South Alabama Symphonic Band, Concert, Saenger Theatre, 815 PM. 460-6156.
MAY 28-JUNE 3	"The Haaty Heart," Joe Jefferson Players, 11 South Carlen Street, 815 PM and 2 PM Sunday matinee, dark house Monday. 471-1534.
MAY 31	Schumann Music Club, "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal Church, 230 PM. 452-1121, 342-4075.
JUNE 5-7, 12-14	"Faerie Tale Theatre," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, 230 PM Sunday matinee. 344-1537.
JUNE 8	City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavillion, Langan Park.
JUNE 19, 26, 27	"Best of Friends," Theatre 98, 151 South Church Street, Fairhope, Alabama, 8 PM, Sunday matinee 3 PM. 928-4366.
JUNE 29	City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavillion, Langan Park.
JULY 7-OCTOBER 3	"Dinosaurs Alive," Explorem, 1906 Spring Hill Avenue, exhibition of fur and feather animals. 476-6873.
JULY 10-SEPTEMBER 5	"The Seven Year Itch," Entertainer Dinner Theatre, dinner 7 PM, 5 curtain 8 PM. 473-8611.
JULY 17-25	"A Milton Brown Revue," South of the Salt Line Regional Theatre, Monty L. Mooror Theatre, St. Paul's School. 433-6000.
AUGUST 12-22	"Our Finest Nation," South of the Salt Line Theatre, Monty L. Mooror Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM. 433-6000.
AUGUST 13-16, 20-23, 27-30.	"Cinderella," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, Sunday matinee 2 PM. 344-1537.

'87 Gay Pride

CHURCH NEWS FROM THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE

AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM MCC is now training its second group of buddies for people with AIDS: The third Monday of every month the trainees meet at Springhill Hospital where social workers, mental health counselors, nurses, doctors, clergy and others help them learn about the needs of people with AIDS and how to meet those needs. Upcoming sessions include: Monday, May 18 - How to listen to someone in trouble; Monday, June 22 and 29 - Home nursing the person with AIDS.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Est at Golden Rod - get ticket to get into show at Society	1. Kick-off Food 4-8:30 GoldenRod \$3.50. MGLCC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM	2.	3.	4.	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6. Dignity spaghetti supper at Goldenrod \$3.00/plate
7. Corral Wrong Show 8 PM	8. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Corral 7 PM	9.	10. Gayly Wed Game at Troopers 8 PM	11. MOBILE AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM show at the Society 8 PM	12.	13. Styx River canoe trip \$15.00 (\$8 canoe, \$2 drink, \$5 bus)
14. Society Divorce Court 8 PM (no cover)	15. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	16.	17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18.	19.	20. OSIRIS Monte Carlo Night at Troopers 9 PM (no cover)
21. All bars - Scavenger Hunt 5 PM \$2 for food MOBILE AIDS FUND start & end at Corral	22. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Golden Rod 7 PM	23.	24. MCC Prayer Vigil for AIDS Blenville Sq. 7 PM bring a candle	25. Golden Rod Dating Game 8 PM (no cover)	26.	27. MCC speaker at Unitarian Universalist Church 7 PM wine & cheese
28. PRIDE PICNIC and T-shirt contest Games-food-fun \$3.50	29. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at CPA 7 PM & 10 PM MGLCC Board meeting	30. MGLCC PRIDE AWARDS NIGHT ----- AIDS Bingo & Jackpot Night	"Dunk the Pastor" at the picnic ----- MCC & AIDS Buddies will staff the booth for 2hrs			



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Mail to:

Name _____ **Lambda Rising**
Address _____ **1625 Connecticut Ave. NW**
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ **Washington, DC, 20009**



FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bewailing and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accomodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when.

Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

.



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Eat at Golden Rod get ticket to get into show at Society	1. Kick-off 2. Food 4-8:30 Golden Rod \$3.50. MGLOCC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM	3.	4.	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6. Dignity spaghetti supper at Golden Rod \$3.00/plate
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GAY PRIDE — WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There was a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night — it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant barge (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSLD (Christopher Street Liberation Day) — appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Matchline Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Glime a 'G' " "Glime an 'A' " "Glime a 'Y' " — Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!"

CSLD handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: For the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day."

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction...Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day — yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.



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DID YOU HEAR...

"Jim has very seldom seen me without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyeglasses." *Tommy Faye Baker, wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Baker, in the forthcoming book Christian Wives*

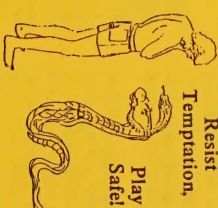
"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. It has no place for show business." *Tele-evangelist Jimmy Swaggart, denouncing colleague Jim Baker, president of the PTL Network and religious theme park, upon revelations that Baker had cheated on his wife and submitted to blackmail*

"Y on entered by placing your story about Jim and Tommy Baker under Religion. It belongs under Exotic & Sensational. People who understand have always been entreprenuers, entertainers, and an abhorrence to legitimate religion." *Letter to the Editor Time (4/30/87)*

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the intelligence of children are making a bad mistake." *Dr. Alan Koznick, health expert at WNEV/Boston, on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV*

"B ooking is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game." *Undersecretary of Defense Ruth Hanft, U.S. Navy picket*

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals of the young and the old, of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on." *C. Everett Koop*



IT TAKES COURAGE TO ADMIT DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

1. WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW? Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone tells me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.

2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone lives to be told they're missed.

3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest room, people seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.

4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. *Carroll* is a good time to come to church for the first time. Isn't it?

5. Bring someone to the Rag Group. Even if people "aren't into church." They would probably enjoy the informality of the rags, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.

6. Be sure you welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC needs a full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR — CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Sometimes church members — or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes — ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone visits the church we see to it that the usher hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry — in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes "from the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr.

The URMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital.

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the "Briggs Initiative" which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978.

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people — of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern.

"At our General Conference in 1983, URMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregational and denominational levels.

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

METROPOLITAN CHURCH AT MOBILE 4500 Bit & Spur Road (West Mobile) Sunday Services: 7:00 PM Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location) Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	476-9142
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP 6345 Old Shell Road (West Mobile) Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	342-6834
MOBILE AIDS FUND P. O. Box 1491 Mobile, Alabama 36601	
CLUB PARK AVENUE 7 South Joachim Street Disco - Show Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos Total Entertainment Complex	433-9103
TROOPERS 215 Conti Street Cruise Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos	438-9139
THE CORRAL 54 South Conception Street Neighborhood Bar - Pool - Videos	433-9258
GOLDEN ROD 219 Conti Street Dancing - Pool - Videos - Music	433-9175
THE SOCIETY LOUNGE Disco - Show Bar - Pool - Videos - Music	433-8184

FROM THE PASTOR - Continued

"At that same conference, two other resolutions were passed in support of a freeze on nuclear weapons -- world peace and justice are urgent concerns of our world-wide fellowship.

"In this day of theological debate and sociological struggle for the status of women in a number of Christian denominations and Jewish communities, it is significant to note that UFMCC is committed to eradicating sexism in its theology, structure, and language as well as its relationship between men and women. At the 1981 General Conference, UFMCC passed specific guidelines for the use of inclusive language in its worship and life.

"Guided by this image of its life and mission, UFMCC has spread around the world with over 200 churches and has hundreds of active clergy and lay leaders and nearly 50,000 members, friends and adherents....Perhaps the mission of UFMCC can best be summarized in the words of Elder Emeritus John Hose, "Never losing sight of Jesus' remarkable invitation to all humankind, we have proceeded with dignity, perseverance and veracity to proclaim 'Freedom and justice for all' by the Grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Kitchen

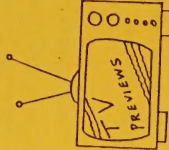


Share your deepest, darkest secret.... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin Restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

CRAB PATE

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 8 oz. fresh crab meat
- 1 10-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 4 ribs of celery, finely chopped
- 1 small white onion, finely chopped
- 1 envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatine in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a shaping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.



HARD CHOICE (1984) Margaret Klenck, John Seitz. A social worker with a "rich hippie" background finds that her husband's homosexual roommate is facing trial as an adult for incest. Black X. HBO, May 11, 17, 21, 23.

I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM (1986) An adopted sixteen-year-old girl begins a quest to trace her natural parents in this poignant story about familial love. Nationally televised, the drama focuses on how her investigation affects her relationship with her mother, who is recalled by her natural father and mother. HBO, May 12, 17, 21, 27.

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT COUNTS (1974) Vincent Price, Mike Smiter, Leigh Lawson. An unusual tale about the world's first genital-transplant recipient. The gorge-on prove to be nothing short of hilarious. HBO, May 11, 16, 20, 25.

MAKING LOVE (1982) Kate Jackson, Michael Ontkean, Harry Hamlin. Jackson portrays a woman who goes into the hospital to have a hysterectomy. Her husband of eight years has homosexual tendencies and she finds out that the talented young doctor who decides to open his closet door is director Arthur Hillier's sensitive take. HBO, May 3, 6, 31.

DOG DAY AFTERNOON (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual bank robber-audience holder. HBO, May 22, 1130 PM.

READER WRITES THAT BUMPER STICKERS ARE OBJECTIONABLE

(The following letter was received from a reader who wishes to remain anonymous. I personally find it very thought provoking.)

This letter is in reference to the red and white bumper stickers that are displayed around town stating that "XXXX Happens." For these real macho guys (?) or women (notice I said women, not ladies) who feel they need to display such a big bad cuss word out front, I feel sorry for them. I went through the teen-age stage where the vocabulary is explored. I also outgrew it. I played high school sports, I've been in the locker room, I've heard all the big, bad cuss words. But we outgrew that, too. Come on, folks, are we really that uncouth? Have we degenerated down to coming home, have a little old grandmother who can still operate a car and give you a ride to school, even out of gas. I hate it that she has to put stickers on the car that says "XXXX Happens." I also know of a few really good children out there who have not been exposed to gutter talk, filth and profanity. How about it? Will some of you pull those "XXXX Happens" stickers off your car, at least if you drive on public roads?

Name withheld by request

POLL INDICATES THAT AIDS THIRD-BIGGEST CONCERN OF YOUTH

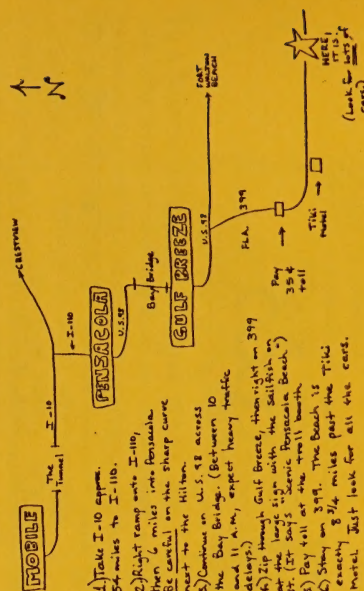
A nationwide poll of young people aged 9-17 indicates that AIDS is the third-biggest concern of youth, after the fear of kidnapping and the threat of nuclear war. The America's Child Youth Poll of 1,000 kids, conducted by the Roper Foundation, also revealed that the majority of adolescents favor allowing gays to teach.

United Press International reported that the poll also found, of the respondents:

- * 65% said they are very concerned about the spread of AIDS, while 20% said they are somewhat concerned and 10% claimed not to be very much concerned.
- * 40% said students with AIDS should be allowed in schools, whereas 43% said they should not.
- * 49% of teen-age respondents said Gays should be allowed to be teachers, while 41% offered the opposite view; 8% said they didn't know.
- * 1% said they did not know what homosexuals are.

SECRET ORDER OF OSIRIS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24

The Order of Osiris is sponsoring a beach happening at the "GAY Beach," east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:



State	Number of Cases	Prevalence of Cases
Residence of Cases	19,660	Minnesota
New York State	9,720	Illinois
New York City	3,404	Oregon
California	3,007	South Carolina
San Francisco	2,237	Wisconsin
Los Angeles	1,029	Alabama
Florida	1,134	Tennessee
Miami	1,134	Nevada
FL Lauderdale	1,134	Kentucky
Texas	1,134	Arkansas
Houston	641	Missouri
Dallas	644	Utah
New Jersey	644	Idaho
San Jose	644	Kansas
San Francisco	644	Nebraska
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	410	North Dakota
Chicago	1010	South Dakota
Illinois	887	West Virginia
Pennsylvania	754	Delaware
Philadelphia	614	Mississippi
Georgia	614	Alabama
Atlanta	562	Florida
Massachusetts	522	Nebraska
District of Columbia	643	North Carolina
Maryland	525	Alabama
Louisiana	452	West Virginia
Connecticut	408	Montana
Virginia	402	Virgin Islands
Ohio	351	North Carolina
Puerto Rico	351	South Dakota
Quebec	210	True Prevalence
North Carolina	210	Prevalence of Cases

Of these, 20,241 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

ALABAMA!
75 LAST MONTH
108 THIS MONTH

* The AIDS cases officially reported by the Centers for Disease Control reflected approximately only 10 percent of the actual number of AIDS cases in the United States. The tens of thousands of other AIDS cases

CULTURAL, ARTS, CALENDAR

SUMMER 1987

MAY 11
City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM,
Washington Square.

MAY 14-
"Noasee Off," Theatre USA/Drama Department, University of South
Alabama, Monty L. Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM.

MAY 15
John H. Chester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South
Alabama Music Department, Humanities Building Auditorium, 815 PM.

MAY 21
University of South Alabama Symphonic Band, Concert, Saenger
Theatre, 815 PM. 466-6136.

MAY 28-
"The Haasy Theatre," Joe Jefferson Plays, 11 South Carlin Street,
815 PM and 2 PM Sunday matinee, dark house Monday. 477-1534.

JUNE 3
Schumann Music Club, "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal
Church, 230 PM. 452-1121, 342-4075.

JUNE 5-7,
12-14
"The Haasy Theatre," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM,
230 PM Sunday matinee. 344-1577.

JUNE 8
City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM,
Washington Square.

JUNE 19-
21, 26, 27
"Beast of Friends," Theatre 98, 151 South Church Street,
Fairhope, Alabama, 8 PM, Sunday matinee, 2 PM, 928-4566.

JUNE 29
City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM,
Washington Square.

JULY 3
Performing Arts Pavilion, Langan Park.

JULY 10-
12
"Dinosaurs Alive," Exploream, 1906 Spring Hill Avenue, exhibitors
of fur and feather animals. 476-6672.

SEPTEMBER
JULY 17-
25
"Five Starlin Ich," Entertainer Dinner Theatre, dinner 7 PM,
8 PM. 473-6611.

AUGUST
JULY 22-
25
"A Million Brown Reves," South of the Salt Line Regional Theatre,
Monty L. Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 433-6000.

AUGUST
JULY 27-
29
"Our Finest Nation," South of the Salt Line Theatre, Monty L.
Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM. 433-6000.

SEPTEMBER
AUGUST 13-
15
"Cinderella," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, Sunday matinee
7:40 PM. 344-1577.

Did Tammy Faye Do 'Monster Mash' Behind Jimmy's Back?

■ **WASHINGTON**—More in the endless saga of PTL staffers Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker: Now it seems that Tammy Faye was cutting on with country and western singer/composer Gary Paxton, famous for his musical composition *Ally Grogan* and *The Monster Movie*. Paxton, who produced Tammy Faye's late-70s hit albums, was said to spend many nights with the songstress. This, reported the singer's ex-wife this week, led Jimmy to repeatedly ask the Paxton home and make threats to Paxton. *Charisma*, a Pentecostal magazine, reported that it is what prompted Bakker into his sexual tryst with Jessica Hahn. Also this week, revelations that Hahn was "recruited" into having sex with Bakker by another fundamentalist preacher who, after having sex with Hahn himself, went on to preach on television and state, "God really intended us to do today." To which Bakker replied, "I feel sure that's true." This thing gets monitored by the minute, doesn't it? *162*

Spanish Lesbians Stage Kissing Protest

MADRID, Spain—Last January, two lesbians were arrested for continuing to hold a public gathering for listening to Madrid's central Puerta del Sol, where they were approached by the officer and asked for identification, an argument that led to the eventual arrests. The women were held in a high security facility for 48 hours before they were released. They reportedly were mistreated and ridiculed repeatedly while in custody. The next week, several hundred lesbians gathered at the site of the arrest and staged a protest. The powerful priestess saw the women chanting slogans of gay and lesbian oppression and encouraging protesters to listen.

DYNAMICS of BIBLICAL FAITH

Faith is not something totally intellectual, like finding the answer to a math problem. The old priest in "The Exorcist" came close to the idea of biblical faith when he said:

"I think belief in God is not a matter of reason at all; I think it finally is a matter of love, accepting the possibility that God could love us."

Biblical faith is loving trust in God—even in the face of intellectual difficulties. For example, when God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham's human reason told him that Isaac was the vehicle by which God's earlier promises to him would be carried out. Had he relied solely on reason, he would have put aside his trust in God. But he DID NOT; he chose to trust even in the face of deep intellectual turmoil.

Because biblical faith involved loving trust, it also demanded personal risk. A good example today is the uncertainty in relationships. Neither can be absolutely sure the other person will be there should major difficulties arise. We have no intellectual certainty.

Biblical faith was something like this. It always involved a knowledge gap that loving trust alone could bridge.

Biblical faith is pictured as an ongoing process. The biggest mistake a person can make is to think that some day s/he will "get the faith" and never have any more questions about it.

Psychology makes an interesting observation here. Consider this statement by a young man: "One day I decided to make God the center of my life. This decision gave me unbelievable peace and joy. But, two days later, I did something that no believer would ever do. I was totally discouraged and concluded that I had not really committed myself to God at all. I had only psyched myself into believing I had." But then I

realized something important. I realized that when we commit ourselves to God, we commit only that part of ourselves which we are aware of at the moment. That's all anyone can do."

Psychology tells us that the greater part of ourselves lies below our consciousness. It surfaces only gradually with each new experience. This means that we are constantly evolving and changing as individuals. Thus, Faith-Commitment is never achieved by one decision on one occasion. It is an ongoing process.

Biblical faith involved periods of darkness. It had a way of going in and out of focus. Many of us modern believers report similar experiences. There are times when our faith seems to go behind a cloud, even seems lost. We undergo a "dark night of the soul," a kind of "trial by fire" as Abraham did.

The remarkable thing about it is that being in doubt or totally lost at times, faith recovered or faith is often much stronger and more powerful.

This is why we in MCC who have been through our faith crises and intellectual dilemmas and regained our belief, or gained new beliefs which have grown out of our past faith, have an unshakeable faith which nothing can move. We have proved for ourselves the claim that Father Mark Link makes [above] in *These Stones Will Shout*.

THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY
AND ESPECIALLY GOLDEN ROD & THE
SOCIETY LOUNGE FOR RAISING \$6000
FOR THE
MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!!

GHETTOIZATION:

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

GENTRIFICATION:

The willing take-over of a run-down area by middle and upper class people; reclaiming a slum area -- unfortunately often pushing out poorer inhabitants by escalating property values beyond their ability to afford housing in the area. However, gays have often been able to reclaim abandoned areas in a positive way that does not damage other oppressed people. (Suggestion for downtown Mobile, anyone?) (Biblical) A burnt offering. Used of the Hitler regime's annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews, Gypsies, Gays, political dissidents and other oppressed people whom Hitler destroyed in a wide-ranging rampage of personal hatred of people he identified as "other" or "different." The demand for full opportunity for integration (whether we take it or not) of our whole selves into the large society along the lines of our choosing and talents, and for the same privileges and protection to be extended to the relationships, organizations, and institutions of gay and lesbian people as are extended to the heterosexual's relationships, organizations, and institutions. (Geyer)

HOMOPHILE:

A lover of gay people; the desire to be with, enjoy the association with gay/lesbian people in a positive environment.

HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT:

Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1897 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION:

(Sometimes called Feminism). In 1838, Sarah Moore Grimké, late to be one of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimké Weld, said "I ask no favors for my sex, all I ask of my brethren is that they take their feet from off our necks." The social, civil, religious, and sexual equality of women; social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation.

ACTIVIST:

A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a social group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

GAY PRIDE

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

HOMOSEXUAL:

Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences, if one is a woman.

CLOSET:

A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life: Closetedness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

GAY:

Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

GAY IDENTITY:

A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community.

GAY PRIDE:

Positive gay identification; used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

HOMOPHOBIA:

A word coined by George Weinberg (Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

HOMOPHOBIC:

Dr. Alice Fennelisey, Columbia University, has found that most homophobes (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression: 1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.

2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply only until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what they are not choose to deal with or which frighten them.

3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.)

OPPRESSION SICKNESS:

The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-abuse, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

LATERAL OPPRESSION:

The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i.e. repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition....[in that] when Jesus cured lepers he touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history".



moving??
Be sure to
give me your
new address!

B	I	N	G	O
8	2	4	4	3
1	2	1	6	3
7	2	7	4	4
4	2	1	3	5
1	5	3	0	4

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

MCC IS PEOPLE
CARING
ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn
we do not condone
we try to understand

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bawling and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accomodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when.

Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

.



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

(205) 476-9142

Pastor

APRIL 1987

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR:

"Lazarus come out!" is one of the most impressive statements Jesus makes. Lazarus had been dead for three days, and his sister said, "By this time he stinketh." Have you ever thought about your own process of coming out as a release from a grave or a cave, and wondered if after a certain period of being in that grave we, too, didn't "stink."

A friend of mine says that "every closet has its own wine cellar," meaning of course that the closet gives us all too many opportunities to drink, to drug, to do self-destructive things, and after a time, many of us get to thinking that our lives literally "stink." The closet and all it stands for can bring us to some horrible places in our lives. But when Jesus says to Lazarus, "Come out!" he gives Lazarus a new lease on life.

For me Easter has always been tied up with the story of Lazarus, coming out and Jesus return to life from the dead. All of them are powerful symbols of new life -- life which had been dead being brought back to life, to newness, to rejoicing in new opportunities.

Easter comes from an old pagan name Eastre, the name of the Teutonic goddess of spring and dawn. The original Christian name for Easter was Pascha (or Pascua in Latin), thus tying it to the old Jewish Passover, whose name was Pesach in Hebrew. The death and resurrection of Jesus constituted a new passover for the people of God, a deliverance from the slavery of death. It is the oldest Christian festival and the source of most of the rest of our devotional year. The resurrection was the basis of the early Christian church's belief -- that Jesus rose from the dead was the apex of Christian fact. Each Sunday thereafter was a "little Easter."

The importance of Easter can be seen from the fact that Easter is preceded by a period of preparation -- the Lenten season of 40 days. This is a time of soul-searching and looking at our lives to see how we can best remedy them and make them more Christlike.

But after the preparation, there is an immediate feeling of joy in knowing that the resurrection has indeed taken place. The Christians of ancient times used to greet each other with "Christ is risen." "Christ is risen, indeed," and for each person Easter represented JOY, LIFE, NEWNESS, HOPE AND VICTORY.

May your soul be filled this Easter season with the joy of your salvation, new life in Christ, the newness of your walk with God, hope in all your life situations, and victory over all your weaknesses. We are assured that we shall live with Christ forever. Hallelujah, Christ gives us the victory. Amen.

From the Editor's Pen

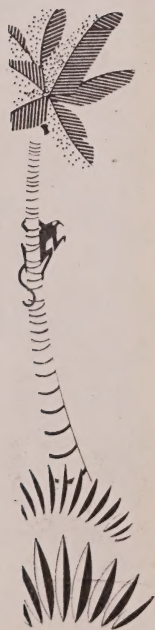
Finally, here it is! It is most appropriate at this time of the year, as we celebrate the second anniversary of MCC at Mobile, and as we approach Easter, that the newsletter makes its return. Truly a resurrection of sorts, you will receive the newsletter monthly, somewhere right around the first of each month. Included you will find church news, words from our pastor, pertinent news items from the community and from across the nation, a local community and business directory, and an awful lot of odds and ends thrown in for good measure.

As Editor I welcome your input into the newsletter -- from time to time we will feature guest editorials, profiles, perhaps even an occasional sermonette. A classified section, free of charge to individuals, will be a regular feature. If you have something to sell, need to buy something, need to locate a roommate, need a job performed, or even need a job -- let the editor know and it will be included in the next month's issue.

This is YOUR newsletter, the official organ of the MCC at Mobile. Only with your support as we get the project off the ground -- resurrected, if you will -- will it continue to survive and be successful in meeting its goal of transmitting news, views, previews, reviews! If you have anything you wish to submit for consideration for inclusion, kindly contact the editor, Ron, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685, or see me at the Sunday evening MCC services. (*** PLEASE try to get your material to me by the 20th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.)

If you request, we will withhold names from articles, or use initials or whatever you wish, if you are concerned about seeing your full name in print. When you submit items, please specify what method, if any, you prefer.

Thanks for being patient as we prepared this first issue. I hope you enjoy this resurrection of the MCC at Mobile newsletter.



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vacation?*

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Greece

TEXAS

Boston

FIRE ISLAND

ENGLAND

Russia

San Francisco

San Diego

M I A M I

MONTH

APRIL 1987

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ANYONE FOR BURET? (THAT'S BAY BURET) CONTACT GARY AT THE GOLDEN R.O.D. TRIP IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, APR. 12			1 RAP 7:30 PM	2 BIBLE 7:30 PM STUDY	3 NEED TO SELL? WANT TO BUY? CHECK OUT OUR CLASSIFIERS!	4
5 MCC SERVICE 7:00 PM	6 AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM MEETING - CALL 476-9142 FOR DETAILS	7	8 RAP 7:30 PM	9 BIBLE 7:30 PM STUDY	10	11
12 MCC SERVICE 7:00 PM	13	14	15 RAP 7:30 PM	16 BIBLE 7:30 PM STUDY	17	18 MCC GARAGE SALE - FUND RAISER
19 Easter Sunday SUNRISE SERVICE @ CITY PARK	20 PLEASE NOTE TODAY IS THE DUE DATE FOR ITEMS FOR THE MAY NEWSLETTER	21	22 RAP 7:30 PM	23 BIBLE 7:30 PM STUDY	24 BRING A FRIEND TO MCC THIS WEEK	25
26 MCC SERVICE 7:00 PM	27	28	29 RAP 7:30 PM	30 BIBLE 7:30 PM STUDY	YOU SAW IT HERE!	

MCC AT MOBILE CELEBRATES SECOND ANNIVERSARY

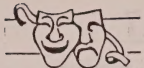
The second anniversary of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile was observed with a dinner and awards ceremony at the Mobilian on March 21. Rev. Sam Edelman of the MCC at Jackson (MS) was the guest speaker. A number of awards presentations were made and the recipients were: Member of the Year, awarded posthumously to Jon Martin; Certificates of Recognition were presented to Shirley L., Joe T., Jon Martin, J. Martin, T. Rose, and Al H. (friend of the Church). Deacons Awards were made to Harold M. and Claudia E. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Pat B., Larry H. and John P.

EASTER SUNDAY OFFERINGS TO BENEFIT MCC PROJECTS IN INDONESIA AND NIGERIA

On Easter Sunday, April 26, a special Easter donation will be taken for MCC's World Church Extension projects. These projects include establishing a workshop for job training for young male prostitutes in Indonesia as well as a medical/mission clinic in Nigeria.

MCC COORDINATES AIDS BUDY PROGRAM

MCC at Mobile is currently involved with training volunteers to become "buddies" for People With AIDS in the Bay area. In this time of crisis, your help is needed. If you are interested in helping, please contact Rev. Marge Ragona at 476-9142.



MOBILE MAY ARMA

CULTURAL EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL 1987

MUSIC

Alabama Symphony Orchestra, April 7, Municipal Theater, 8:00 PM, 432-2010.

Budapest Brass Quintet, April 12, Mobile Chamber Music Society, Bernheim Hall, 701 Government St., 3:00 PM, 432-9796.

Spring Hill College Chorale, Spring Concert, April 12, St. Joseph's Chapel, 7:30 PM.

Auburn University Wind Quintet, April 13, Fairhope Arts Center, 8:00 PM, 928-2228.

City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, 10th Anniversary Starlight Concert, April 13, Performing Arts Pavilion, Langan Park, 8:00 PM.

New Orleans Symphony Orchestra with Henry Mancini, April 23, Municipal Theater, 8:00 PM, 432-2010.

The Schumann Music Club, Scenes from Mozart's "Così fan Tutti," St. John's Episcopal Church, 2:30 PM, 452-1121, 342-4075.

ART

Art and the Alabama Woman, April 1-22, The Donald Gallery, Mobile College, 675-9990.

Alabama Portfolio: Prints by 22 Alabama Artists, University of South Alabama Art Gallery, April 1-16, 460-6211.

Featured Artists Biennial Exhibition, April 5-May 2, Fine Arts Museum of the South, Langan Park, 343-2667.

THEATRE

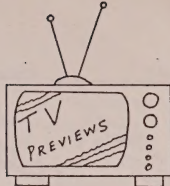
"This Glorious New Century," April 1-4, South of the Salt Line Regional Theatre, 8:15 PM, Monte L. Moorer Theatre, St. Paul's School, 433-6000.

"Eye, Bye, Birdie," April 23-26 and 30, Pixie Players, Langan Park, 7:30 PM, 2:30 PM Sunday matinee, 344-1537.

"Two By Five," The Entertainer Dinner Theatre, April 24-June 21, dinner 7:00 PM, curtain 8:30 PM, 473-8611.

"William's Window," Theatre 98 Young Actors Production, April 24-26, 151 South Church St., Fairhope, 8:00 PM, 3:00 PM Sunday matinee, 928-4366.

"Porgy and Bess," April 25, St. Francis Xavier Interdenominational Chorus, Saenger Theater, 473-4975.



SEVEN MINUTES IN HEAVEN 1986. PG13 99 min. Instead of having sex, 15-year-old friends Jennifer Connelly & Maddie Corman cope with adolescence in a much more old-fashioned way. They turn boy-craziness into an art form. Linda Feferman directed this humorous and sensitive look at teenage troubles. HBO, April 13, 16, 19, 22, 25 and 28.

VICTOR/VICTORIA The classic 80's version of drag? Blake Edwards directs Julie Andrews. WGN (Ch 9), April 18, 7 PM.

"WHAT IF I'M GAY?" is the question a teen-ager named Todd (Richard J. Paul) is forced to deal with after two friends find a male pornographic magazine in his room. Todd says he bought it because "there's a great weightlifting article in there" and he quickly puts on a tough-guy front to impress his buddies. But they're not convinced.... CBS (Ch 5), April 21, 3 PM.

"If you live, you're going to get old."

Twenty-four old lesbians share their lives in *Long Time Passing*, this long-awaited look at lesbians and aging. They give us first-hand accounts of lesbian life in decades past, of aging, and of facing their own mortality.

Long Time Passing

Lives of Older Lesbians
edited by Marcy Adelman, Ph.D.

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Lives of Older Lesbians



MARCY ADELMAN, Ph.D.

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IN MEMORIAM

Jon Martin... Charter Member, MCC at Mobile

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Services: Sunday, 7:40 AM
Lep. Discussion Group: Wednesday, 7:30 PM (call for location)
Bible study: Thursday, 7:30 PM (call for location)

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342-9797

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6345 Old Shell Road
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MOBILE AIDS FUND

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Mobile AL 36661

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Disco - Show Bar - Entertainment Complex

476-9165

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WHAT TO DO ABOUT

AIDS

Physicians and Mental
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Discuss the Issues
Edited by Leon McKusick

The most comprehensive study yet
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The expert professionals represented
here provide insight into dif-
ferent aspects of the illness and
how it affects all those associ-
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treatment are what they write
about because there is, as yet,
no cure, but the focus on mental
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Berkeley 94720

What Doctors Really Think About AIDS

A Quick Look at the MD Survey

MD magazine recently polled its
readership of 145,000 physicians to
find out what doctors think about
AIDS. The results were surprising,
indicating that many physicians do not
agree with official positions about the
disease and how to deal with it. The
following are some of the statistics
gathered from the study.

- Close to 48% of American physi-
cians in private practice have en-
countered one or more AIDS patients.

- As a specialty, psychiatrists en-
counter AIDS patients the most often
—65% of psychiatrists polled had en-
countered one or more patients with
AIDS.

- Seventy-eight percent of the sur-
vey respondents favor confidential an-
tibody testing and contact tracing for
"high risk" individuals.

- Twenty-eight percent of the survey
respondents favor some form of quar-
antine.

- Fifty-one percent recommend a test
for antibodies to LAV/HTLV-III/HIV,
the so-called "AIDS virus," as a pre-
requisite for obtaining a marriage li-
cense.

- Seventy-nine percent advocate spe-
cial high school classes on how to avoid

AIDS and other sexually transmissible
diseases.

- Twenty-five percent suggest provid-
ing drug users with sterilized hypo-
dermic needles.

- Seventy-eight percent of physicians
would not dispute the cause of death
on a death certificate if asked to by an
AIDS sufferer or his family.

When asked about antibody testing
of specific groups:

- Forty-three percent favored testing
military personnel.

- Forty percent favored testing den-
tists.

- Thirty-seven percent favored test-
ing doctors.

- Thirty-seven percent favored test-
ing hospital employees.

- Thirty-four percent favored testing
food handlers.

- Thirty-one percent favored testing
life insurance applicants.

- Forty-five percent of physicians
would not accept hospital blood supplies
if a member of their family were fac-
ing major elective surgery, in which a
transfusion would likely be required.
An additional nine percent did not know
what they would do.

32,825 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC**
as of March 16, 1987.

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10,091	Arizona	174
New York City	9,181	Minnesota	172
California	7,486	Indiana	148
San Francisco	3,315	Oregon	127
Los Angeles	2,811	Hawaii	117
Florida	2,199	South Carolina	114
Miami	977	Tennessee	101
St. Louis	340	Wisconsin	100
Texas	2,056	Oklahoma	99
Houston	1,036	Nevada	78
Dallas	775	Alabama	78
New Jersey	1,884	Kentucky	67
Newark	775	Kansas	65
Jersey City	351	Rhode Island	63
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	925	Utah	59
Illinois	770	New Mexico	53
Chicago	582	Arkansas	51
Pennsylvania	708	Delaware	48
Philadelphia	578	Mississippi	40
Massachusetts	678	Iowa	40
Boston	498	Maine	39
Georgia	654	New Hampshire	28
Atlanta	511	Alaska	25
District of Columbia	588	Nebraska	25
Maryland	509	West Virginia	22
Washington	402	Vermont	11
Louisiana	395	Idaho	8
Connecticut	391	Montana	7
Puerto Rico	363	Virgin Islands	7
Colorado	338	Wyoming	7
Florida	224	North Dakota	4
Ohio	302	South Dakota	3
Michigan	293	Michigan	3
Missouri	203	Trust Territory	1
North Carolina	199	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	460

Of these, 19,021 (approximately 58 percent) are
dead.

not reported by the CDC do not conform to its strict
definition, and are therefore not officially counted or
reported.
In 1981, 261 cases of AIDS were counted by the
CDC.

** The AIDS cases officially reported by the Centers
for Disease Control reflect approximately only 10 per-
cent of the actual number of AIDS cases in the United
States. The tens of thousands of other AIDS cases

In 1982, 999 were counted.
In 1983, 2,765 were counted.
In 1984, 5,531 were counted.
In 1985, 8,484 were counted.
In 1986, 10,021 were counted.

DID YOU HEAR..

"Every occasion in India is punctuated with dance and music. The thinking is that the dances are the shortest ways to the realization of what you Westerners call 'God.' It is the blood and the life of Indian thinking that everything is made beautiful for the Supreme One. The body is given to us, and we make it more beautiful by learning the harmony of it all and by wearing beautiful things."

Indian dancer Sanaal Mangesh
(Horton, March 1987)

"I have to admit, having your son grow up to be executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force—well, it's not exactly every father's dream."

Max Levi,
father of Jeff Levi,
in a promotional mailing for NGLTF

"If we can't make progress, we face the dreadful prospect of a worldwide death toll in the tens of millions a decade from now."

Dr. Otis R. Bowen,
U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services,
regarding AIDS education efforts

"Women were afraid of looking like bachelorettes when Phyllis Schlafly came out in her flouncy dress; so they tried to out-flounce her. They stuck a hideous Smurf smile on their faces the way she does and tried to beat her at her own game. And you cannot do that and win. You must battle these people and reduce them through ridicule!"

Science fiction writer Ellison Hillson, giving one reason why the Equal Rights Amendment failed

"Yes, I'm a homosexual. Now let's get on with the case."

A 36-year-old Long Island male's response to a State Supreme Court judge at the opening of a child-custody trial, which the man subsequently won

"I don't have to do three-legged lesbian nuna."

Geraldo Rivera,
explaining how his new TV show will differ from Donahue and the Oprah Winfrey Show

"Politically, we want people to come out of the closet, largely because people who know someone like gay tend to be less anti-gay. But basically, we support people's right to privacy. People have so much of being thought gay because there's so much ambivalence."

Urvasi Vaid,
spokesperson for the
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force

"No matter what we told the people, they believed us, if insurance companies or the government wanted to get their hands on their names, they said."

Dr. John Martin,
Columbia University School of Public Health,
on the difficulty of finding subjects for a federally funded study of AIDS among male homosexuals

"AIDS is going to increase ninefold in the US between now and 1990. But among heterosexuals there are going to be 20 times as many cases. . . . The cure for heterosexuals contracting AIDS is going up more than twice as fast because they are not taking the precautions homosexuals have learned are essential."

U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop

"On a recent visit to the United States, I found an almost fanatical campaign against smoking. I found every restaurant and hotel we were presented with matchbooks. What, I ask, are they trying to encourage? Arson?"

Letter to the Editor,
New York Times (3/18/87)

"Just think about what goes on within a rock. You can relax for ten or 15 minutes that way. It takes your mind off the daily pressure."

Howard Stein,
chairman of the Dreyfus Foundation

"Occasionally, all this talk among heterosexuals about heterosexuals and AIDS makes it sound like straight are a little jealous of all the attention gays are getting and want in on the tragedy that only promiscuity can bring. Gays get all the pity. That's not a particularly attractive attitude—unattractive, in fact; that most heterosexuals who hold it don't even know they feel that way."

John Pridmore,
editor of Insight magazine

"[Rock Hudson, Jill Ireland, and Betty Ford] chose to make their health problems public. Liberace, for whatever his reasons, did not. The authorities and the news people should have respected his wishes. We have the right to talk freely about our health problems. We should also have the right to privacy, even after we're dead." And "It is relatively unimportant that Liberace did indeed die of AIDS. His family and fans should not be subjected to any further embarrassment."

Letters to the Editor,
New York Post (2/16/87)

"Humanism will no longer be guaranteed a preferred position in American education. Humanism and its hidden agenda are now out of the closet."

Robert Skelrod,
executive director of the National Legal Foundation,
a group established by anti-gay tele-evangelist and
presidential hopeful

Pur Robertson, on U.S. District Court Judge W.
Broward Hand's decision to ban 45 textbooks from
Alabama public schools because they promote "the
religion of secular humanism"

"The judge has stood the First Amendment on its head."

Anthony Podesta,
president of People for the American Way,
on Judge Hand's decision

"When Rock Hudson came out of the closet and announced he had AIDS, the Reagan sent messages and it was said that now, finally, people would confront the terrible plague openly and that society and the scientists and the government would mobilize and take action. We were naive. With Liberace, the conspiracy of silence continues."

"What would cando have cost Liberace? Do you think the blue-haired ladies would have smashed their records and torn up their tickets to the Music Hall if, a few years ago, he'd talked openly? I doubt it. He wasn't selling much up to now, you know; he wasn't being Hulk Hogan."

The man never committed reticence once in his life, yet he lay dying the people around him threatened lawsuits if anyone suggested he was gay or had AIDS."

"That's sad. Sadder still, I think, that Liberace didn't grab the opportunity for one final standing ovation, a last curtain speech, in which he told Middle America just what it was that was killing him and how they, and all of us, ought to be doing something about it."

James Brady

"I want people to know what I've been through and how terrible this disease is. Maybe it will help people to understand."

on-NFL star and former receiver
for the Washington Redskins, about having AIDS

"You know, for all the talk about liberation and coming of age, there's still, in Hollywood anyway, a gigantic closet community. And there's a kind of hypocrisy. . . . If you're an actor in Hollywood, and you are known to be gay, your career is in trouble. Anybody who knows anything about the theatrical business knows that there's a huge gay population, and not just in front of the camera. Big time producers, agents, big time everything. And sometimes I just want to say, 'Okay, everyone: out of the closet!'"

Jack Coleman,
co-star of Dynasty

"We have enough foolish prejudices in the world as it is. In the past, gay people were ridiculed and laughed at, and the rest of the population refused to understand them. Homosexuality isn't a physical disease or a mental illness. It's simply a way of life. When I was a teenager, I was considered weird and offbeat too, because I dressed and talked differently from other people and had different goals. I know what it's like to be treated with contempt for being different."

Barbra Streisand

"I don't think my daughter is going to see any of it, by my choice."

Bette Midler,
on her plan to shield her recently born daughter,
Sophie, from seeing her raunchy stage performances

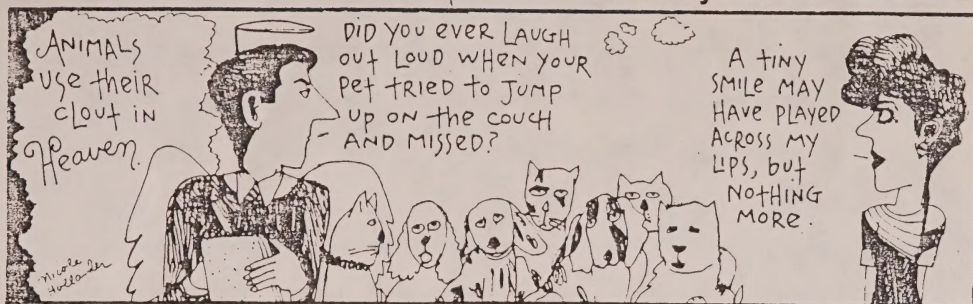
ROOMMATE NEEDED Share 2BR apartment in Loop area - \$35.00 weekly plus 1/2 of electric - 2 weeks rent in advance. Call 471-3586 between 9 PM and 10 PM. Platonic only, please.

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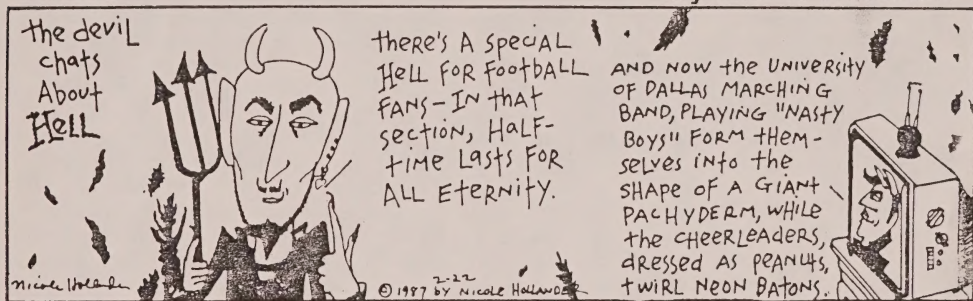
SYLVIA

by Nicole Hollander



SYLVIA

by Nicole Hollander



Share your favorite cooking ideas!

LET ALL OF US IN ON YOUR SECRET..



OLD FASHIONED KOSHER PICKLES

You say you can't find a good Kosher pickle? Now you can impress all your friends with a homemade recipe that will put all the big name delicatessens to shame. The yield is limited only by the number of jars you have to fill.

You will need:



Small unaxed pickling cukes (found in the produce section)
Water
Kosher salt (found in the Jewish section)
Pickling spices (found in the spice section)
Fresh hot peppers
Garlic cloves
Dill seed
Mason jars with two-piece screw on lids (a medium size jar will do)

In a wide pot or pan boil both parts of the Mason lids. This is to insure an air tight fit.

Fill a clean jar with as many cukes as you can cram into it. Fill with water.

Add to each jar crammed with cukes and water:

1 heaping tablespoon of Kosher salt,
1/2 teaspoon dilling spice,
1/2 teaspoon dill seed,
one piece (1/4 to 1/2) of small hot pepper,
1/2 clove of fresh garlic.

With a pair of tongs retrieve both the lid and the screw ring from the boiling water and screw it on the jar as tight as you can. Turn the finished jars upside down for 24 hours to see if any leak. If they are okay the next day you can store upright in the back of your cupboard for two weeks away from extremes in temperature and too much light. After two weeks your pickles will be ready. Chill a jar before opening. The rest will live unopened for four to six months.



PARVE PINEAPPLE-LIME SHERBET

Boil:

1 cup sugar,
4 cups water,
1/2 cup lemon juice

Add 2 tablespoons Lime Jello mix - Cool
Add a 20 ounce can of crushed pineapple in heavy syrup - Freeze

When stiff remove from freezer and flake with a fork or mash up with a potato masher or mixer.

Beat 3 egg whites until stiff,
Add to mashed up mixture and mix well. - Refreeze

The primary purpose of all human rights organizations is to stop the persecution of people everywhere.

The specific goal of *Citizens Against Persecution* is to end the oppression of gay men and lesbians in the United States.

Our state and federal governments, "health" officials, right-wing fundamentalist churches and synagogues have manipulated our neighbors and families with increasing effectiveness to regard gay people as mortal threats to the "American way of life."

We intend to work toward our goal by launching a major mass media campaign to inform the public about the very real threats to the survival of gay people.

Never in the history of the gay rights movement has any organization

attempted to present our plight to the general public through the skillful use of television, newspapers, and magazines.

Our goal may seem modest; indeed, it is, compared with what we are up against.

We do not believe that Americans want gay people put in concentration camps.

Yet we are rapidly approaching a time when our rights will be abridged even more than they are today, when our very physical existence may be imperiled.

Now is not the time to turn your back on those who are trying to effect change.

Please help us.

YES! I want to stop the persecution of gay people in America.
Please keep me informed.

Citizens Against Persecution
250 West 57th Street
Suite 1527
New York, NY 10019

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____



The Metropolitan Community Church
AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



Love



Yourself

WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Eat at Golden Rod - get ticked to get into show at Society Lounge, 9 PM	1. Kick-off 2. Food 7-8:30 Golden Rod \$5.50. MGICC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM	3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31.	3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31.	3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31.	3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31.	3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31.

GAY PRIDE — WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night — it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant beggie (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSID (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Glime a 'G' " "Glime an 'A' " "Glime a 'Y' " — Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!

CSID handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: For the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day."

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction...Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day — yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.



BEST EVER! Third Edition!

The Whole Gay Catalog

For gay men and lesbians, their families and friends, this **THIRD EDITION OF THE WHOLE GAY CATALOG** brings the world of lesbian and gay literature as close as your telephone or mailbox. Offers a multitude of **BOOKS, plus VIDEOS, RECORDS & TAPES, GIFTS**, and more! Over 100 pages, indexed. **ORDER YOURS NOW! FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING GAY AND LESBIAN BOOKSTORE!**

Please send me The Whole Gay Catalog. I enclose \$2.

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Lambda Rising
1625 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC, 20009



AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM MCC is now training its second group of buddies for people with AIDS: The third Monday of every month the trainees meet at Springhill Hospital where social workers, mental health counselors, nurses, doctors, clergy and others help them learn about the needs of people with AIDS and how to meet those needs. Upcoming sessions include: Monday, May 18 - How to listen to someone in trouble; Monday, June 22 and 29 - Home nursing the person with AIDS.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE MCC will be presenting a six-week series on the Biblical passages which deal with homosexuality:

- August 4: About the Bible - what it is, how it was written, how it came to us
- August 11: Source/textual criticism and why and how we use them to study the historical/cultural background of the Bible
- August 18: "The Big Eight" - the Old Testament
- August 25: "The Big Eight" - the New Testament
- September 1: Contra Natura: how the church has traditionally viewed homosexuality
- September 8: "Free From the Law" - saved by grace, how the church is beginning to look at homosexuality in light of modern thought, psychology and spirituality.

HE'S RUNNING FOR AIDS Brent Nicholson Earle is a New York playwright, totally committed to bringing AIDS to the nation's attention. He will be in Mobile beginning Saturday, May 16, running 22 miles a day from New Orleans via Biloxi to be here. You can meet Brent Earle at the bars Saturday night, at MCC on Sunday night (May 17) or at Buddy training on Monday (May 18) at 7:30 P.M. Get involved! Buy a button or a t-shirt to help support this one man's effort to build visibility for AIDS research, treatment and humane treatment for persons with AIDS.

AIDS PRAYER VIGIL MCC at Mobile's annual Vigil of Prayer for persons with AIDS and act of remembrance for those who have died of AIDS will be held in Bienville Square in downtown Mobile, Wednesday, June 24 at 7:00 P.M. Music, prayer and a short memorial service will be held. Bring a candle for each person you want to remember.

GAY PRIDE SERVICE AT MCC Sunday evening, June 28, at 7:00, MCC's service will remember all the gay victims of Hitler's holocaust in our annual Gay Pride Memorial Service, in addition to remembering everyone who has been a martyr or a patriot to the cause of gay liberation. All are invited to attend.



DID YOU HEAR...

"I am very seldom seen me without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyelashes."

Tammy Faye Bakker, wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, in the forthcoming book Christian Wives

"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. It has no place for and no need for show."

Thomsonist Jimmy Swaggart, denouncing colleague Jim Bakker, president of the PTL Network and religious theme park, upon revelations that Bakker had cheated on his wife and submitted to blackmail

"You ended by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Exposé. The Bakkers have always been outrageous entertainers, and an obscenity to legitimate religion."

Letter to the Editor, Time (4/30/87)

"Kids really think. People who underestimate the maturity and intelligence of children are making a sad mistake."

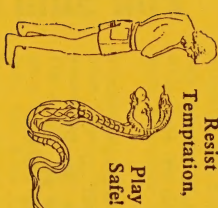
Dr. Allen Xenakis, health expert at WNEV/Boston, on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV

"B...ombling is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game."

Lester Kinsinger, Commander Bob Hubert, U.S. Navy pilot

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals of the young and the old of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried, the heterosexuals and the homosexuals who are the majority of the nation and I want to be so."

C. Everett Koop



IT TAKES COURAGE TO ADMIT TO YOUR DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW?

1. Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.
2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest rooms; people seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. *Copywrite* A good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?
5. Bring someone to the Bag Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the raps, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure you welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Sometimes church members — or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes — ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone visits the church we see to it that the unholy hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry — in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "From the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr.

The URMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital.

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the "Briggs Initiative" which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978.

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people — of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern.

"At our General Conference in 1983, URMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregation and denominational levels.

could copy +

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

METROPOLITAN CHURCH AT MOBILE 4500 Bit & Spur Road (West Mobile) Sunday services: 7:00 PM Bible Study: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location) Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	476-9142
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP 6345 Old Shell Road (West Mobile) Sunday services: 10:45 AM	342-6834
MOBILE AIDS FUND P. O. Box 1491 Mobile, Alabama 36601	
CLUB PARK AVENUE 7 South Joachim Street Disco - Show Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos Total Entertainment Complex	433-9103
TROOPERS 215 Conti Street Cruise Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos	438-9139
THE CORRAL 54 South Conception Street Neighborhood Bar - Pool - Videos	433-9258
GOLDEN ROD 219 Conti Street Dancing - Pool - Videos - Music	433-9175
THE SOCIETY LOUNGE Disco - Show Bar - Pool - Videos - Music	433-8184

FROM THE PASTOR - Continued

"At that same conference, two other resolutions were passed in support of a freeze on nuclear weapons -- world peace and justice are urgent concerns of our world-wide fellowship.

"In this day of theological debate and sociological struggle for the status of women in a number of Christian denominations and Jewish communities, it is significant to note that UPMCC is committed to eradicating sexism in its theology, structure, and language as well as its relationship between men and women. At the 1981 General Conference, UPMCC passed specific guidelines for the use of inclusive language in its worship and life.

"Guided by this image of its life and mission, UPMCC has spread around the world with over 200 churches and has hundreds of active clergy and lay leaders and nearly 50,000 members, friends and adherents....Perhaps the mission of UPMCC can best be summarized in the words of Elder Emeritus John Hose, 'Never losing sight of Jesus' remarkable invitation to all humankind, we have proceeded with dignity, perseverance and veracity to proclaim 'Freedom and justice for all' by the Grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

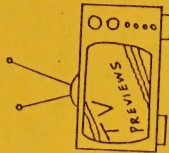
Kitchen

Share your deepest, darkest secret.... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin Restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

CRAB PATE

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 8 oz. fresh crab meat
- 1 10-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 4 ribs of celery, finely chopped
- 1 small white onion, finely chopped
- 1 envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatine in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a shaping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.



HARD CHOICE (1991) Margaret Klumok, John Seitz. A poor 15-year-old Tennessee mountain boy facing trial as an adult for murder. Rick King wrote and directed this drama. HBO, May 11, 17, 21, 23.

I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM (1986) An adopted sixteen-year-old girl begins a quest to trace her natural parents. A poignant story about familial love. The contemporary drama focuses on adoption. Reception affects her adoptive parents, and now she is received by her natural father and mother. SHO, May 12, 17, 21, 23.

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT COUNTS (1974) Vincent Price, Eric Sommer, Leigh Lawson. An unusual tale about the going-on-proven to be nothing short of hilarious. SHO, May 11, 16, 26, 29.

MATING LOVE (1992) Kate Jackson, Michael Ontkean, Patrick Warburton. A woman who has been into shock after discovering that her husband of eight years has homosexual tendencies (on no!) Ontkean is the talented young doctor who decides to open his clinic to the first gay couple. A touching and sensitive tale. HBO, May 3, 6, 21.

DOG DAY AFTERNOON (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual bank robber-murderer. HBO, May 22, 1:30 PM.

READER WRITES THAT BUMPER STICKERS ARE OBJECTIONABLE

(The following letter was received from a reader who wishes to remain anonymous. I personally find it very thought provoking.)

This letter is in reference to the red and white bumper stickers that are displayed around town stating that "XXXX Happens." For these real macho guys (?) or women (notice I said women, not ladies) who feel they need to display such a big bad cuss word out front, I feel sorry for them. I went through the teen-age stage where the vocabulary is explored. I also outgrew it. I played high school sports, I've been in the locker room, I've heard all the big, bad cuss words. But we outgrew that, too. Come on, folks, are we really that uncouth? Have we degenerated down to being a little old grandmother who can still operate a car and drive? (notice I said grandmother, not old lady) I think that she has to put up with those "XXXX Happens" bumper stickers. I also know of a few really good children out there who have not been exposed to gutter talk, filth and profanity. How about it? Will some of you pull those "XXXX Happens" stickers off your car, at least if you drive on public roads?

Name withheld by request

POLL INDICATES THAT AIDS HIRED-BIGGEST CONCERN OF YOUTH

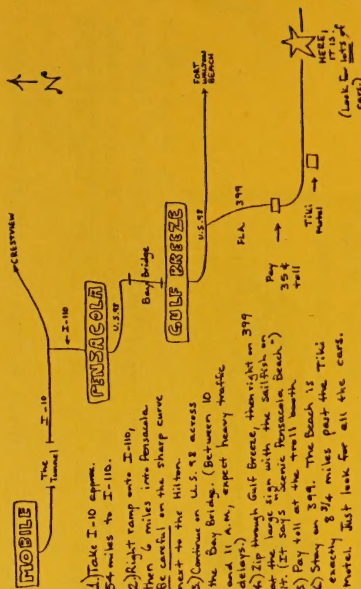
A nationwide poll of young people aged 8-17 indicates that AIDS is the third-biggest concern of youth, after the fear of kidnapping and the threat of nuclear war. The American Child Youth Poll of 1,000 kids, conducted by the Roper Foundation, also revealed that the majority of adolescents favor allowing gays to teach.

United Press International reported that the poll also found, of the respondents:

- * 65% said they are very concerned about the spread of AIDS, while 20% said they are somewhat concerned and 10% claimed not to be very much concerned.
- * 40% said students with AIDS should be allowed in schools, whereas 43% said they should not.
- * 49% of teen-age respondents said gays should be allowed to be teachers, while 41% offered the opposite view; 8% said they didn't know.
- * 1% said they did not know what homosexuals are.

SECRET ORDER OF OSIRIS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24

The Order of Osiris is sponsoring a beach happening at the "Gay Beach" east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:



15,068 and counting... AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC** as of April 27, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	1,069	Minnesota	132
New York City	979	Indiana	181
California	785	Oregon	181
San Francisco	344	South Carolina	154
Los Angeles	302	Wisconsin	139
Miami	102	Alabama	108
Texas	414	Tennessee	105
Illinois	113	Kentucky	87
Houston	641	Mississippi	79
Dallas	614	Utah	68
Newark	219	New Mexico	56
Jersey City	410	Delaware	48
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	101	Massachusetts	48
Chicago	769	Missouri	41
Philadelphia	612	Nebraska	29
Georgia	716	Alaska	27
Massachusetts	522	West Virginia	25
District of Columbia	522	Idaho	23
Maryland	526	Montana	13
Louisiana	42	North Dakota	7
Connecticut	468	South Dakota	4
Virginia	462	Nebraska	29
Ohio	351	Alaska	27
Puerto Rico	328	Delaware	48
Missouri	216	Massachusetts	48
North Carolina	210	Mississippi	79

Of these, 20,241 (approximately 95 percent) are dead.

ALABAMA? 75 LAST MONTH 108 THIS MONTH

**The AIDS cases officially reported by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are only 10 percent of the actual number of AIDS cases. In 1984, 5,531 were counted. In 1985, 10,021 were counted. In 1986, 10,021 were counted.

Did Tammy Faye Do 'Monster Mash' Behind Jimmy's Back?

WASHINGTON — More in the endless saga of PTL clippers Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker. Now it seems that Tammy Faye was carrying on with country and western singer-songwriter, Gary Paxton, famous for his hit "The Monster Mash," and *The Monster Mash*, Paxton, who produced Tammy Faye's last album, was said to spend many late nights with the songwriter. This reported the singer's ex-wife this week. Did Jimmy to repeatedly call the Paxton home to get to Paxton. *Charisma*, a Pentecostal magazine, reported that this is what Tammy Faye was "renewed" into having sex with Jessica Hahn. Also this week revelations surfaced that Bakker had been having sex with Heidi Hahn, another fundamentalist star. "God is not interested in us today," To which Bakker replied, "Yes I need more rest like that." This thing gets more sordid by the minute, doesn't it?

Spanish Lesbians Stage Kissing Protest

MADRID, Spain — Last January, two lesbians were arrested for contempt, resisting arrest and public outrage for kissing in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol. When they were approached by the officer and asked for identification, an argument ensued which led to the eventual arrests. The women were held in a high security facility for 48 hours before they were released. They reportedly were mistreated and ridiculed repeatedly while in custody. The next week, several hundred lesbians gathered at the site of the arrest and staged a mass kiss-in. The peaceful protest saw the women chanting slogans of gay and lesbian oppression and encouraging passers-by to kiss them.

DYNAMICS OF BIBLICAL FAITH

Faith is not something totally intellectual, like finding the answer to a math problem. The old priest in "The Exorcist" came close to the idea of biblical faith when he said:

"I think belief in God is not a matter of reason at all; I think it finally is a matter of love, accepting the possibility that God could love us."

Biblical faith is loving trust in God—even in the face of intellectual difficulties. For example, when God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham's human reason told him that Isaac was the vehicle by which God's earlier promises to him would be carried out. Had he relied solely on reason, he would have put aside his trust in God. But he DID NOT. He chose to trust even in the face of deep intellectual turmoil.

Because biblical faith involved loving trust, it also demanded personal risk. A good example today is the uncertainty in relationships. Neither can be absolutely sure the other person will be there should major difficulties arise. We have no intellectual certainty.

Biblical faith was something like this. It always involved a knowledge gap that loving trust alone could bridge.

Biblical faith is pictured as an ongoing process. The biggest mistake a person can make is to think that some day s/he will "get the faith" and never have any more questions about it.

Psychology makes an interesting observation here. Consider this statement by a young man: "One day I decided to make God the center of my life. This decision gave me unbelievable peace and joy. But, two days later, I did something that no believer would ever do. I was totally discouraged and concluded that I had not really committed myself to God at all. I had only psyched myself into believing I had." But then I

realized something important. I realized that when we commit ourselves to God, we commit only that part of ourselves which we are aware of at the moment. That's all anyone can do."

Psychology tells us that the greater part of ourselves lies below our consciousness. It surfaces only gradually with each new experience. This means that we are constantly evolving and changing as individuals. Thus, Faith-Commitment is never achieved by one decision on one occasion. It is an ongoing process.

Biblical faith involved periods of darkness. It had a way of going in and out of focus. Many of us modern believers report similar experiences. There are times when our faith seems to go behind a cloud, even seems lost. We undergo a "dark night of the soul," a kind of "trial by fire" as Abraham did.

The remarkable thing about is that after being in doubt or totally lost for a time, faith recovered or faith renewed is often much stronger and more powerful.

This is why we in MCC who have been through our faith crises and intellectual dilemmas and regained our belief, or gained new beliefs which have grown out of our past faith, have an unshakeable faith which nothing can move. We have proved for ourselves the claim that Father Mark Link makes [above] in *These Stones Will Shout*.

THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY AND ESPERANZA GORDON ROD & THE SOCIETY DOWNS FOR RAISING \$600 FOR THE MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!

CULTURAL ARTS CALENDAR

SUMMER 1987

- MAY 11 City of Mobile Symphonic Pope Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM, Washington Square.
- MAY 14 Theatre USA/Drama Department, University of South Alabama, Monty L. Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM.
- MAY 15 Alabama Glee Club, Chester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South Alabama, University of Department, Humanities Building Auditorium, 815 PM.
- MAY 21 Theatre, 815 PM, 606-6196.
- MAY 28- "The Hasty Heart," Joe Jefferson Players, 11 South Garden Street, 815 PM and 2 PM Sunday matinee, 471-1534.
- JUNE 3 Schumann Music Club, "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal Church, 230 PM, 452-1121, 342-4075.
- JUNE 5-7 "Faerie Tale Theatre," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, 230 PM Sunday matinee, 344-1537.
- JUNE 8 City of Mobile Symphonic Pope Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavillion, Langan Park.
- JUNE 19- 21, 26, 27 "Best of Friends," Theatre 98, 151 South Church Street, Fairhope, Alabama, 8 PM, Sunday matinee 3 PM, 928-4366.
- JUNE 29 City of Mobile Symphonic Pope Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavillion, Langan Park.
- JULY 7- "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil," 1906 Spring Hill Avenue, exhibition of fur and feather animals, 476-6873.
- JULY 10- "The Seven Year Itch," Entertainer Dinner Theatre, dinner 7 PM, 5 curtain 8 PM, 473-8611.
- SEPTEMBER "A Million Brown Revue," South of the Salt Line Regional Theatre, 25 Monty L. Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 453-6000.
- AUGUST "Our Finest Nation," South of the Salt Line Theatre, Monty L. Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM, 456000.
- AUGUST 13- "Cinderella," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, Sunday matinee 2 PM, 344-1537.
- 16, 20-23, 27-30.

GHETTOIZATION:

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

GENTRIFICATION:

The willing take-over of a run-down area by middle and upper class people; reclaiming a slum area -- unfortunately often pushing out poorer inhabitants by escalating property values beyond their ability to afford housing in the area. However, gays have often been able to reclaim abandoned areas in a positive way that does not damage other oppressed people. (Suggestion for downtown Mobile, anyone? (Biblical) A burnt offering. Used of the Hitler regime's annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews, Gypsies, Gays, political dissidents and other oppressed people whom Hitler destroyed in a wide-ranging rampage of personal hatred of people he identified as "other" or "different." The demand for full opportunity for integration (whether we take it or not) of our whole selves into the large society along the lines of our choosing and talents, and for the same privileges and protection to be extended to the relationships, organizations, and institutions of gay and lesbian people as are extended to the heterosexual's relationships, organizations, and institutions. (Geyer)

HOMOPHILE:

A lover of gay people; the desire to be with, enjoy the association with gay/lesbian people in a positive environment.

HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT:

Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1897 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION:

(Sometimes called Feminism). In 1838, Sarah Moore Grimké, later to be one of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimké Weld, said "I ask no favors for my sex, all I ask of my brethren is that they take their feet from off our necks." The social, civil, religious, and sexual equality of women; social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation.

ACTIVIST:

A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a social group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

HOMOSEXUAL:

Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences, if one is a woman.

CLOSED:

A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life; closetedness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

GAY:

Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

GAY IDENTITY:

A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community.

GAY PRIDE:

Positive gay identification; used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

HOMOPHOBIA:

A word coined by George Weinberg (Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

HOMOPHOBIC:

Dr. Alice Fennese, Columbia University, has found that most homophobes (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression:

1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.
 2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply only until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what homophobes do not choose to deal with or which frighten them.
 3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.)
- The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-abuse, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

OPPRESSION SICKNESS:

The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i.e. repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

LATERAL OPPRESSION:

The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i.e. repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition....[in that] when Jesus cured lepers he touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history".



*moving??
Be pure to
give us your
new address!*

B	I	N	G	O
8	2	4	4	3
12	1	6	3	8
7	2	7	4	4
4	2	1	3	5
15	3	0	4	5
5	6	6	9	

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

MCC IS PEOPLE
CARING
ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn
we do not condone
we try to understand

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bewailing and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accommodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely west Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when.

Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

.....



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



Love



Yourself

WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

FRIDAY SATURDAY

1. Kick-off	2. Kick-off	3.	4.	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6. Dignity spaghetti supper at Goldenrod \$5.00/plate
Eat at Golden Rod get ticked to get into show at Society	Food 4-8:30 Goldenrod \$3.50. MGLOCC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM				
7. Corral Wrong Show 8 PM	8. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Corral 7 PM	10. Gayly Wed Game at Troopers 8 PM	11. MOBILE AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM show at the Society 8 PM	12.	13. Styx River canoe trip \$15.00 (\$8 canoe, \$2 drink, \$5 bus)
14. Society Divorce Court 8 PM (no cover)	15. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18.	19.	20. OSIIS Monte Carlo Night at Troopers 9 PM (no cover)
21. All bars - Scavenger Hunt 5 PM \$2 for food at Goldenrod MOBILE AIDS FUND start & end at Corral	22. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Goldenrod 7 PM	24. MCC Prayer Vigil for AIDS Bienville St. 7 PM bring a candle (no cover)	25. Golden Rod Dating Game 8 PM	26.	27. MCC speaker at Unitarian Universalist Church 8 PM wine & cheese
28. PRIDE PICNIC and T-shirt contest Games-food-fun \$3.50	29. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at CPA 7 PM & 10 PM MGLOCC Board meeting	30. MGLOCC PRIDE AWARDS NIGHT AIDS Bingo & Jackpot Night			

GAY PRIDE — WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night — it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant barge (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSID (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Glime a 'G' " "Glime an 'A' " "Glime a 'Y' " — Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!

CSID handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: For the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day."

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction. Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day — yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.

BEST EVER! Third Edition!

The Whole Gay Catalog

For gay men and lesbians, their families and friends, this **THIRD EDITION** of **THE WHOLE GAY CATALOG** brings the world of lesbian and gay literature as close as your telephone or mailbox. Offers a multitude of **BOOKS**, plus **VIDEOS, RECORDS & TAPES, GIFTS**, and more! Over 100 pages, indexed. **ORDER YOURS NOW! FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING GAY AND LESBIAN BOOKSTORE!**

Author: **Lambda Rising**
 1625 Connecticut Ave. NW
 Washington, DC, 20009

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please send me *The Whole Gay Catalog*. I enclose \$2.



CHURCH NEWS FROM THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE

AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM MCC is now training its second group of buddies for people with AIDS: The third Monday of every month the trainees meet at Springhill Hospital where social workers, mental health counselors, nurses, doctors, clergy and others help them learn about the needs of people with AIDS and how to meet those needs. Upcoming sessions include: Monday, May 18 - How to listen to someone in trouble; Monday, June 22 and 29 - Home nursing the person with AIDS.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE MCC will be presenting a six-week series on the Biblical passages which deal with homosexuality:

- August 4: About the Bible - what it is, how it was written, how it came to us
- August 11: Source/textual criticism and why and how we use them to study the historical/cultural background of the Bible
- August 18: "The Big Eight" - the Old Testament
- August 25: "The Big Eight" - the New Testament
- September 1: Contra Natura: how the church has traditionally viewed homosexuality
- September 8: "Free From the Law" - saved by grace, how the church is beginning to look at homosexuality in light of modern thought, psychology and spirituality.

HE'S RUNNING FOR AIDS Brent Nicholson Earle is a New York playwright, totally committed to bringing AIDS to the nation's attention. He will be in Mobile beginning Saturday, May 16, running 22 miles a day from New Orleans via Biloxi to be here. You can meet Brent Earle at the bars Saturday night, at MCC on Sunday night (May 17) or at Buddy training on Monday (May 18) at 7:30 P.M. Get involved! Buy a button or a t-shirt to help support this one man's effort to build visibility for AIDS research, treatment and humane treatment for persons with AIDS.

AIDS PRAYER VIGIL MCC at Mobile's annual Vigil of Prayer for persons with AIDS and act of remembrance for those who have died of AIDS will be held in Bienville Square in downtown Mobile, Wednesday, June 24 at 7:00 P.M. Music, prayer and a short memorial service will be held. Bring a candle for each person you want to remember.

GAY PRIDE SERVICE AT MCC Sunday evening, June 28, at 7:00, MCC's service will remember all the gay victims of Hitler's holocaust in our annual Gay Pride Memorial Service, in addition to remembering everyone who has been a martyr or a patriot to the cause of Gay Liberation. All are invited to attend.



DID YOU HEAR...

"I am a very seldom seen man without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyeglasses." *Tammy Faye Bakker, wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, in the forthcoming book Christian Wives*

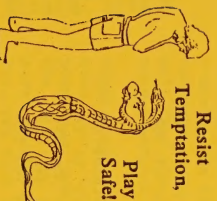
"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober." *Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart, president of the FTM News Council and religious theme park, upon revelations that Bakker had cheated on his wife and submitted to blackmail*

"I am erred by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakers have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and an alibi to legitimate religion." *Letter to the Editors, Time (4/20/87)*

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a bad mistake." *Dr. Alan Xenakis, health expert at WVEV/Bozou, on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV*

"Bombing is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game." *Lieutenant Commander Bob Hubert, U.S. Navy pilot*

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals of the young and the old, of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on." *C. Everett Koop*



IT TAKES COURAGE TO ADMIT DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

1. Tell CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW! Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.
2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest rooms; people seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone whom you know, "Wouldn't it be a good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?"
5. Bring someone to the Rap Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the caps, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure YOU welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR - CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Sometimes church members — or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes — ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone visits the church we see to it that the usher hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today," in this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry — in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "From the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

"In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr."

"The UPMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital."

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the "Briggs Initiative" which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978."

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people — of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern."

"At our General Conference in 1983, UPMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregational and denominational levels."

Get it on p. 4

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

METROPOLITAN CHURCH AT MOBILE
4500 Bit & Spur Road (West Mobile)
Sunday services: 7:00 PM
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)

DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER
342-7891

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
5345 Old Shell Road (West Mobile)
Sunday services: 10:45 AM

MOBILE AIDS FUND
P. O. Box 1491
Mobile, Alabama 36601

CLUB PARK AVENUE
7 South Joachim Street
Disco - Show Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos
Total Entertainment Complex
433-9103

TROOPERS
215 Conti Street
Cruise Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos
THE CORRAL
54 South Conception Street
Neighborhood Bar - Pool - Videos
433-9253

GOLDEN ROD
219 Conti Street
Dancing - Pool - Videos - Music
THE SOCIETY LOUNGE
Disco - Show Bar - Pool - Videos - Music
433-8184

FROM THE PASTOR - Continued

"At that same conference, two other resolutions were passed in support of a freeze on nuclear weapons -- world peace and justice are urgent concerns of our world-wide fellowship.

"In this day of theological debate and sociological struggle for the status of women in a number of Christian denominations and Jewish communities, it is significant to note that UFMCC is committed to eradicating sexism in its theology, structure, and language as well as its relationship between men and women. At the 1981 General Conference, UFMCC passed specific guidelines for the use of inclusive language in its worship and life.

"Guided by this image of its life and mission, UFMCC has spread around the world with over 200 churches and has hundreds of active clergy and lay leaders and nearly 50,000 members, friends and adherents....Perhaps the mission of UFMCC can best be summarized in the words of Elder Emeritus John Hose, "Never losing sight of Jesus' remarkable invitation to all humankind, we have proceeded with dignity, perseverance and veracity to proclaim 'Freedom and justice for all' by the Grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

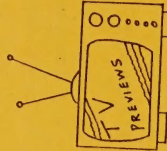
Kitchen

Share your deapest, darkest secret.... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin Restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

CRAB PATE

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 8 oz. fresh crab meat
- 1 10-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 4 ribs of celery, finely chopped
- 1 small white onion, finely chopped
- 1 envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatine in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a shaping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.



HARD CHOICE (1984) Margaret Klenck, John Seitz. Serial killer with a "rich hippie" background facing trial as an adult for murder. Rick King wrote and directed this drama. HBO, May 11, 17, 23.

I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM (1986) An adopted sixteen-year-old girl begins a quest to trace her natural parents in this poignant story about familial love. Directed by John Schlesinger. HBO, May 11, 17, 23.

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT COUNTS (1974) Vincent Price, Mike Sumner, Jeter Jacobson. An unusual tale about the world's first genital-transplant recipient. The recipient, a woman, undergoes nothing short of hilarious. HBO, May 11, 16, 26, 29.

MAKING LOVE (1992) Kate Jackson, Michael Ontkean. A woman on pornography who goes into shock after discovering her husband's secret. Ontkean has homosexual tendencies (oh no!) Ontkean is our talented young doctor who decides to open his heart to a director's son, Arthur Hillier's sensitive talent. HBO, May 3, 6, 31.

DOO DAY AFTERNOON (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual bank robber-hostage holder. HBO, May 22, 1130 PM.

READER WRITES THAT BUMPER STICKERS ARE OBJECTIONABLE

(The following letter was received from a reader who wishes to remain anonymous. I personally find it very thought provoking.)

This letter is in reference to the red and white bumper stickers that are displayed around town stating that "XXXX Happens." For these real macho guys (?) or women (notice I said women, not ladies) who feel they need to display such a big bad cuss word out front, I feel sorry for them. I went through the teen-age stage where the vocabulary is explored. I also outgrew it. I played high school sports, I've been in the locker room, I've heard all the big, bad cuss words. But we outgrew that, too.

Come on, folks, are we really that uncouth? Have we degenerated down to nothing? I have a little old grandmother who can still operate a car and drive no wrecks, no violations or even out of gas. I have a friend who has to put up with those "XXXX Happens" bumper stickers. I also know of a few really good children out there who have not been exposed to gutter talk, faith and profanity. How about it? Will some of you pull those "XXXX Happens" stickers off your car, at least if you drive on public roads?

Name withheld by request

POLL INDICATES THAT AIDS THIRD-BIGGEST CONCERN OF YOUTH

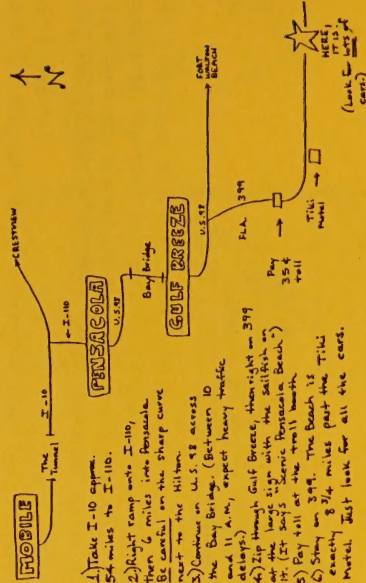
A nationwide poll of young people aged 8-17 indicates that AIDS is the third biggest concern of youth, after the fear of kidnapping and the threat of being hit by a car. The American Child Youth Poll of 1,000 kids, conducted by the Kaiser Foundation, also revealed that the majority of adolescents favor allowing gays to marry.

United Press International reported that the poll also found, of the respondents:

- * 65% said they are very concerned about the spread of AIDS, while 20% said they are somewhat concerned and 10% claimed not to be very much concerned.
- * 40% said students with AIDS should be allowed in schools, whereas 43% said they should not.
- * 49% of teen-age respondents said gays should be allowed to be teachers, while 41% offered the opposite view; 8% said they didn't know.
- * 1% said they did not know what homosexuals are.

SECRET ORDER OF OSIRIS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24

The Order of Osiris is sponsoring a beach happening at the "Gay Beach," east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:



State	Number of Cases	Number of Cases	Number of Cases
Alabama	192	Mississippi	154
Alaska	154	Minnesota	154
Arizona	154	Montana	154
Arkansas	154	Nebraska	154
California	154	Nevada	154
Colorado	154	New Hampshire	154
Connecticut	154	New Jersey	154
Delaware	154	New Mexico	154
District of Columbia	154	New York	154
Florida	154	North Carolina	154
Georgia	154	North Dakota	154
Hawaii	154	Ohio	154
Idaho	154	Oklahoma	154
Illinois	154	Oregon	154
Indiana	154	Pennsylvania	154
Iowa	154	Rhode Island	154
Kansas	154	South Carolina	154
Kentucky	154	South Dakota	154
Louisiana	154	Tennessee	154
Maine	154	Texas	154
Maryland	154	Utah	154
Massachusetts	154	Vermont	154
Michigan	154	Virginia	154
Minnesota	154	Washington	154
Mississippi	154	West Virginia	154
Missouri	154	Wisconsin	154
Montana	154	Wyoming	154
Nebraska	154		
Nevada	154		
New Hampshire	154		
New Jersey	154		
New Mexico	154		
New York	154		
North Carolina	154		
North Dakota	154		
Ohio	154		
Oklahoma	154		
Oregon	154		
Pennsylvania	154		
Rhode Island	154		
South Carolina	154		
South Dakota	154		
Tennessee	154		
Texas	154		
Utah	154		
Vermont	154		
Virginia	154		
Washington	154		
West Virginia	154		
Wisconsin	154		
Wyoming	154		

Of these, 20,241 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

ALABAMA?
75 LAST MONTH
108 THIS MONTH

* * The AIDS cases officially reported by the Center for Disease Control reflected approximately only 10 percent of the actual number of AIDS cases in the United States. The tens of thousands of other AIDS cases

CULTURAL ARTS CALENDAR

SUMMER 1987

MAY 11 City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM
Washington Square.

May 14- "Noises Off," Theatre USA/Drama Department, University of South
17 Alabama - Monty Python's "The Meaning of Life" at the

MAY 15 John H. Chester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South Alabama Music Department 7:00 PM.

University of South Alabama Symphonic Band, Concert, Saenger Theatre 815 PM

"The Hasty Heart," Joe Jefferson Players, 11 South Carlen Street, 845 PM and 8 PM.

Schumann Music Club, "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal Church, 4/1-1954.

JUNE 5-7, "Faerie Tale Theatre," Pixie Players, Lanken Park, 730 PM.

City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert. 8 PM.

JUNE 19-
arriving at 10 million, Langan Park.

Theatre 98, 151 South Church Street,
 Fairhope, Alabama. 8 PM. Sunday matinee 3 PM. 928-4366.

City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM,
Performing Arts Pavilion, Iaugan Park

"Dinosaurs Alive," Explorem, 1906 Spring Hill Avenue, exhibition
of fur and feather animals 476-6873

July 10 - "The Seven Year Itch," Entertainer Dinner Theatre, dinner 7 PM
 September 5 curtain 8 PM 473-8611

"A Milton Brown Revue,"
Monty T. Moore
South of the Salt Line Regional Theatre

"Our Finest Nation," South of the Salt Line Theatre, Monty L. Moore Theatre St. Paul, 12-22

AUGUST 13-20-23
"Cinderella," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, Sunday matinee 2 PM 344-1577

27-30, 2 FM, 244-1551.

Did Tammy Faye Do 'Monster Mash' Behind Jimmy's Back?

WASHINGTON—More in the endless saga of PTL clubbier Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker: Now it seems that Tammy Faye was carrying on with country and western singer-songwriter Gary Paxton, who produced Tammy's last two albums, was said to spend many late nights with the songstress. In this, reported the *Stargazer*, she was told to speed many late nights with the songwriter. In this, reported the *Stargazer*, she was told to speed many late nights with the songwriter. In this, reported the *Stargazer*, she was told to speed many late nights with the songwriter.

Spanish Lesbians Stage Kissing Protest

resisting arrest and public outcry for listening in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol. When they were approached by the police, they were asked for identification, an argument for which led to the eventual arrests. The women were held in a high security facility for 48 hours before they were released. They reportedly were mistreated and ridiculed, repeatedly while in custody. The next morning, the men were released from the site of the arrest and stayed a short time in the jail. The peaceful protest saw the chanting slogans of gay and lesbian oppression and encouraging passers-by to assist.

DYNAMICS OF BIBLICAL FAITH

Faith is not something totally intellectual, like finding the answer to a math problem. The old priest in "The Exorcist" came close to the idea of biblical faith when he said:

"I think belief in God is not a matter of reason at all; I think it finally is a matter of love, accepting the possibility that God could love us."

Biblical faith is loving trust in God—even in the face of intellectual difficulties. For example, when God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham's human reason told him that Isaac was the vehicle by which God's earlier promises to him would be carried out. Had he relied solely on reason, he would have put aside his trust in God. But he DID NOT. He chose to trust even in the face of deep intellectual turmoil.

Because biblical faith involved loving trust, it also demanded personal risk. A good example today is the uncertainty in relationships. Neither can be absolutely sure the other person will be there should major difficulties arise. We have no intellectual certainty.

Biblical faith was something like this. It always involved a knowledge gap that loving trust alone could bridge.

Biblical faith is pictured as an ongoing process. The biggest mistake a person can make is to think that some day s/he will "get the faith" and never have any more questions about it.

Psychology makes an interesting observation here. Consider this statement by a young man: "One day I decided to make God the center of my life. This decision gave me unbelievable peace and joy. But, two days later, I did something that no believer would ever do. I was totally discouraged and concluded that I had not really committed myself to God at all. I had only psyched myself into believing I had." But then I

realized something important. I realized that when we commit ourselves to God, we commit only that part of ourselves which we are aware of at the moment. That's all anyone can do."

psychology tells us that the greater part of ourselves lies below our consciousness. It surfaces only gradually with each new experience. This means that we are constantly evolving and changing as individuals. Thus, Faith-Commitment is never achieved by one decision on one occasion. It is an ongoing process.

Biblical faith involved periods of darkness. It had a way of going in and out of focus. Many of us modern believers report similar experiences. There are times when our faith seems to go behind a dark, even seems lost. We undergo a "dark night of the soul," a kind of "trial by fire" as Abraham did.

The remarkable thing about is that after being in doubt or totally lost for a time, faith recovered or faith renewed is often much stronger and more powerful.

This is why we in MCC who have been through our faith crises and intellectual dilemmas and regained our belief, or gained new beliefs which have grown out of our past faith, have an unshakeable faith which nothing can move. We have proved for ourselves the claim that Father Mark Link makes [above] in These Stones Will Shout.

THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY
AND ESPECIALLY GOLDEN ROD & THE
SOCIETY LOUNGE FOR RAISING \$6000
FOR THE
MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!!

GAY PRIDE

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

HOMOSEXUAL:
LESBIAN:

CLOSET:

To have an erotic preference for members of one's own sex. Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences, if one is a woman. A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life; closetedness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community.

Positive gay identification; used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

A word coined by George Weinberg (Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

Dr. Alice Fennessey, Columbia University, has found that most homosexuals (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression: 1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.

2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply only until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what homosexuals do not choose to deal with or which frighten them.

3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.) The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-use, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

LATERAL OPPRESSION: The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i.e. repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

TALKING LIBERATION (continued)

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

The willing take-over of a run-down area by middle and upper class people; reclaiming a slum area -- unfortunately often pushing out poorer inhabitants by escalating property values beyond their ability to afford housing in the area. However, gays have often been able to reclaim abandoned areas in a positive way that does not damage other oppressed people. (Suggestion for downtown Mobile, anyone? (Biblical) A burnt offering. Used of the Hitler regime's annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews, Gypsies, Gays, political dissidents and other oppressed people whom Hitler destroyed in a wide-ranging rampage of personal hatred of people he identified as "other" or "different."

The demand for full opportunity for integration (whether we take it or not) of our whole selves into the large society along the lines of our choosing and talents, and for the same privileges and protection to be extended to the relationships, organizations, and institutions of gay and lesbian people as are extended to the heterosexual's relationships, organizations, and institutions. (Geyer)

A lover of gay people; the desire to be with, enjoy the association with gay/lesbian people in a positive environment.

HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT: Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1897 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION: (Sometimes called Feminism). In 1838, Sarah Moore Grimké, later: "One of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimké Weld, said: "I ask no favors for my sex, all I ask of my brethren is that they in their feet from off our necks." The social, civil, religious, and sexual equality of women; social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation.

A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a social group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

MCC IS PEOPLE
CARING
ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn
we do not condone
we try to understand

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition....[in that] when Jesus cured lepers he touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history".



moving? :2
Be pure to
give us your
new address!

B	I	N	G	O
8	2	4	4	3
5	5	7	2	
1	2	1	6	3
8	5	2	6	8
7	2	7	4	4
6	0	7	5	
4	2	1	3	5
7	3	4	5	4
1	5	3	0	4
5	6	6	9	

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bewailing and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accommodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when. Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

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The Metropolitan Community Church
AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

SUNDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1. Kick-off	2. Kick-off	3.	4.	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6.
Est at Golden Rod - get ticket to get into show at Society	Golden Rod 7-8:30 \$3.50. MGICC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM				Dignity spaghetti supper at Golden Rod \$3.00/plate
7. Corral Wrong Show 8 PM	8. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Corral 7 PM	9. Gayly Wed Game at Troopers 8 PM	11. MOBILE AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM show at the Society 8 PM	12.	13. Styx River canoe trip \$15.00 (\$8 canoe, \$2 drink, \$5 bus)
14. Society Divorce Court 8 PM (no cover)	15. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	16.	17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18.	20. OSIRIS Monte Carlo Night at Troopers 9 PM (no cover)
21. All bars - Scavenger Hunt 5 PM \$2 for food MOBILE AIDS FUND start & end at Corral	22. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Golden Rod 7 PM	23.	24. MCC Prayer Vigil for AIDS Bienville Sq. 7 PM bring a candle	25. Golden Rod Dating Game 8 PM (no cover)	27. MCC speaker at Unitarian Universalist Church 7 PM wine & cheese
28. PRIDE PICNIC and T-shirt contest Games-food-fun \$9.50	29. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at CFA 7 PM & 10 PM MGICC Board meeting	30. MGICC PRIDE AWARDS NIGHT AIDS Bingo & Jackpot Night	"Dunk the Pastor" at the picnic MCC & AIDS Buddies will staff the booth for 2hrs		

GAY PRIDE — WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night — it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant barge (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSID (Christopher Street Liberation Day) — appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservative men joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Gimme a 'g' " "Gimme an 'a'" "Gimme a 'i'" — Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!

CSID handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: For the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day.

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction....Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day — yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.

COMING
EVENTS

BEST EVER! Third Edition!

The Whole Gay Catalog

For gay men and lesbians, their families and friends, this **THIRD EDITION** of THE **WHOLE GAY CATALOG** brings the world of lesbian and gay literature as close as your telephone or mailbox. Offers a multitude of **BOOKS, plus VIDEOS, RECORDS & TAPES, GIFTS, and more!** Over 100 pages, indexed. **ORDER YOURS NOW! FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING GAY AND LESBIAN BOOKSTORE!**

Occasionally Postaged

Please send me **The Whole Gay Catalog**, I enclose \$2. Mail to

Name _____ **Lambda Rising**
Address _____ 1625 Connecticut Ave. NW
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Washington, DC, 20009



CHURCH NEWS FROM THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE

AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM MCC is now training its second group of buddies for people with AIDS. The third Monday of every month the trainees meet at Springhill Hospital where social workers, mental health counselors, nurses, doctors, clergy and others help them learn about the needs of people with AIDS and how to meet those needs. Upcoming sessions include: Monday, May 18 - How to listen to someone in trouble; Monday, June 22 and 29 - Home nursing the person with AIDS.

HOMESEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE MCC will be presenting a six-week series on the Biblical passages which deal with homosexuality:

- August 4: About the Bible - what it is, how it was written, how it came to us
- August 11: Source/textual criticism and why and how we use them to study the historical/cultural background of the Bible
- August 18: "The Big Eight" - the Old Testament
- August 25: "The Big Eight" - the New Testament
- September 1: Contra Natura: how the church has traditionally viewed homosexuality
- September 8: "Free from the Law" - saved by grace, how the church is beginning to look at homosexuality in light of modern thought, psychology and spirituality.

HE'S RUNNING FOR AIDS Brent Nicholson Earle is a New York playwright, totally committed to bringing AIDS to the nation's attention. He will be in Mobile beginning Saturday, May 16, running 22 miles a day from New Orleans via Biloxi to be here. You can meet Brent Earle at the bars Saturday night, at MCC on Sunday night (May 17) or at Buddy training on Monday (May 18) at 7:30 P.M. Get involved! Buy a button or a t-shirt to help support this one man's effort to build visibility for AIDS research, treatment and humane treatment for persons with AIDS.

AIDS PRAYER VIGIL MCC at Mobile's annual Vigil of Prayer for persons with AIDS and act of remembrance for those who have died of AIDS will be held in Bienville Square in downtown Mobile, Wednesday, June 24 at 7:00 P.M. Music, prayer and a short memorial service will be held. Bring a candle for each person you want to remember.

GAY PRIDE SERVICE AT MCC Sunday evening, June 28, at 7:00, MCC's service will remember all the gay victims of Hitler's holocaust in our annual Gay Pride Memorial Service, in addition to remembering everyone who has been a martyr or a patriot to the cause of Gay Liberation. All are invited to attend.



DID YOU HEAR...

"I am very seldom seen me without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyelashes." *Tammy Faye Bakker, wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, in the forthcoming book Christian Wives on life and submitted to National*

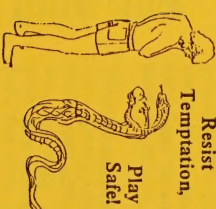
"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. *Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart, president of the PTL Network and religious theme park, upon revelations that Bakker had cheated on his wife and submitted to National*

"You ended by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakers have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and an alibi for legitimate religion." *Letter to the Editor (Time 6/20/87)*

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a mistake." *Dr. Alvin Krosnick, health expert at WNEV/Boston, on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV*

"Bombing is fun. It's a kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game." *Lieutenant Commander Bob Hubert, U.S. Navy pilot*

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals of the young and the old of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which and I want to be on." *C. Everett Koop*



IT TAKES COURAGE TO ADMIT DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW?

1. Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.
2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest room. People seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. *Gay-Aids* is a good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?
5. Bring someone to the Rap Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the raps, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure you welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Sometimes church members — or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes — ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone calls "The Church we see to it that the uber hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry — in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "From the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr.

"The UPMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National lobby in the national capital."

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the "Briggs Initiative" which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978."

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people — of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern."

"At our General Conference in 1983, UPMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregational and denominational levels."

could em p +

(The following letter was received from a reader who wishes to remain anonymous. I personally find it very thought provoking.)

KOLENEN

Share your deepest, darkest secret... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin Restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

CRAB PATE

1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
8 oz. fresh crab meat
1 10-oz. can cream of chicken
soup
3/4 cup mayonnaise
4 ribs of celery, finely

1 small white onion, finely chopped
1 envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatine in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a snapping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.

Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.

"At that same conference, two other resolutions were passed in support of a freeze on nuclear weapons -- world peace and justice are urgent concerns of our world-wide fellowship.

"In this day of theological debate and sociological struggle for the status of women in a number of Christian denominations and Jewish communities, it is significant to note that UF MCC is committed to eradicating sexism in its theology, structure, and language as well as its relationship between men and women. At the 1981 General Conference, UF MCC passed specific guidelines for the use of inclusive language in its worship and life.

"Guided by this image of its life and mission, UFMCC has spread around the world with over 200 churches and has hundreds of active clergy and lay leaders and nearly 50,000 members, friends and adherents....Perhaps the mission of UFMCC can best be summarized in the words of Elder Emeritus John Hose, "Never losing sight of Jesus' remarkable invitation to all humankind, we have proceeded with dignity, perseverance and veracity to proclaim 'Freedom and justice for all' by the Grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

HARD CHOICES (1984) Margaret Klenck, John Seitz. A social worker with a "rich hippie" background meets a poor 15-year-old Tennessee mountain boy facing trial as an adult for murder. Rick King wrote and directed this drama. HBO, May 11, 17, 21, 29.

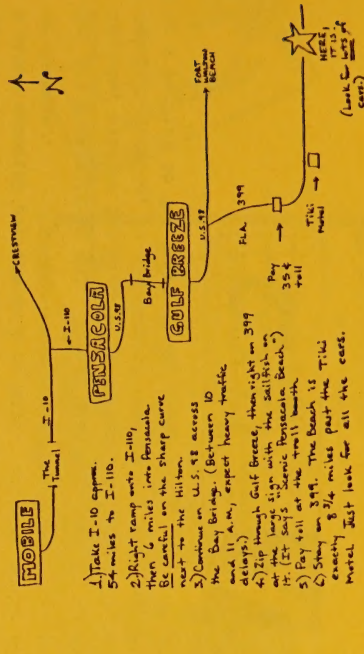
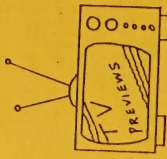
I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM (1986) An adopted sixteen-year-old girl begins a quest to trace her natural parents in this poignant story about familial love. The contemporary drama focuses on how her investigation affects her adoptive parents, and how she is received by her natural father and mother. SHO.

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT COUNTS (1974) Vincent Price.
Elke Sommer, Leigh Lawson. An unusual tale about the
world's first genital-transplant recipient. The
goings-on prove to be nothing short of hilarious.
SHO, May 11, 16, 26, 29.

MAKING LOVE (1992) Kate Jackson, Michael Ontken, Harry Belafonte. Jackson portrays a woman who goes into shock after discovering that her husband of eight years has homosexual tendencies (oh no!) Ontken is the talented young doctor who decides to open his closet door to director Arthur Hiller's sensitive tale. *ABC, May 5, 6, 31.*

DOG DAY AFTERNOON (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual bank robber-hostage holder. WGN. May 22. 1130 PM.

'87 Gay Pride



SECRET ORDER OF OSIRIS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24

The Order of Osiris is sponsoring a beach happening at the "Gay Beach," east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bewailing and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accommodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when.

Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

.



The Metropolitan Community Church

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

AT MOBILE

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

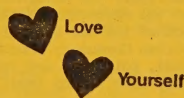
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1. Kick-off 2. Food 4-8:30 GoldenPod \$3.50. MGLCC & AIDS Fund show, Society lounge, 9 PM	1. Kick-off 2. Food 4-8:30 GoldenPod \$3.50. MGLCC & AIDS Fund show, Society lounge, 9 PM	3. 10. Gayly Wed Game at Troopers 8 PM	4. 11. MOBILE AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM show at the Society 8 PM	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6. Dignity spaghetti supper at GoldenPod \$3.00/plate	13. Styx River canoe trip \$15.00 (\$8 canoe, \$2 drink, \$5 bus)
7. Corral Wrong Show 8 PM	8. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Corral 7 PM	9. 16. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18. 20. GSIRIS Monte Carlo Night at Troopers 9 PM (no cover)	26. 27. MCC speaker at Unitarian Universalist Church 7 PM wine & cheese	
14. Society Divorce Court 8 PM (no cover)	15. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	16. 21. All bars - Scavenger Hunt 5 PM \$2 for food MOBILE AIDS FUND start & end at Corral	17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18. 24. MCC Prayer Vigil for AIDS Bienville Sq. 7 PM bring a candle	25. Golden Rod Dating Game 8 PM (no cover)	
28. PRIDE PICNIC and T-shirt contest games-food-fun \$3.50	29. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at CPA 7 PM & 10 PM MGLCC Board meeting	30. MGLCC PRIDE AWARDS NIGHT AIDS Bingo & Jackpot Night	31. Dunk the Pastor" at the picnic MCC & AIDS Buddies will staff the booth for 2hrs			

GAY PRIDE — WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night — it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant bagie (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSLD (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Gimme a "G" " "Gimme an "A" " "Gimme a "Y" — Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!"

CSLD handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary Celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: for the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day."

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction...Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Lambda Rising
1625 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC, 20009



Jim has very seldom seen me without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyelashes."

Tammy Faye Bakker, wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker

wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, in the forthcoming book *Christian Wives*

The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. It has no place for amusement parks."

Y ou agreed her election must stand about firm and

You erred by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakers have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and an albatross to legitimate religion."

Letter to the Editor
Time (4/20/87)

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Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a sad mistake."

Dr. Alan Xenakis

health expert at WNEV/Boston
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Bombing is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game."

Lieutenant Commander Beth Hubert

U.S. Navy pilot

I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals, of the young and the old, of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on."

C. Everett Koop

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C. Everett Koop

**Resist
Temptation,**

Resist Temptation

**Resist
Temptation,
Play
Safe!**

**DRUG OR ALCOHOL
PROBLEM.**

gregational and denominational levels.

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

METROPOLITAN CHURCH AT MOBILE
4500 Bit & Spur Road (West Mobile)
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)
342-7891

DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER
342-6834

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
6345 Old Shell Road (West Mobile)
Sunday services: 10:45 AM

MOBILE AIDS FUND
P.O. Box 1491
Mobile, Alabama 36601

CLUB PARK AVENUE
7 South Joachim Street
Disco - Show Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos
Total Entertainment Complex
433-9103

TROOPERS
215 Conti Street
Cruise Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos
438-9139

THE CORRAL
54 South Conception Street
Neighborhood Bar - Pool - Videos
433-9258

GOLDEN ROD
219 Conti Street
Dancing - Pool - Videos - Music
433-9175

THE SOCIETY LOUNGE
Disco - Show Bar - Pool - Videos - Music
433-8184

FROM THE PASTOR - Continued

"At that same conference, two other resolutions were passed in support of a freeze on nuclear weapons -- world peace and justice are urgent concerns of our world-wide fellowship.

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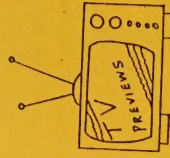
Kitchen

Share your deapest, darkest secret... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

CRAB PATE

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 8 oz. fresh crab meat
- 1 10-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 4 ribs of celery, finely chopped
- 1 small white onion, finely chopped
- 1 envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatine in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a shaping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.



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MAKING LOVE (1982) Kate Jackson, Michael Ontkean, Harry Hamlin. Jackson portrays a woman who goes into shock after discovering that her husband of eight years is gay. The drama focuses on how Ontkean is the talented young doctor who decides to open a closet door in director Arthur Hiller's sensitive tale. TMC, May 3, 6, 31.

DOO DAY AFTERNOON (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual Santa Robert-Hortage holder. WGN, May 22, 1130 PM.

READER WRITES THAT BUMPER STICKERS ARE OBJECTIONABLE

(The following letter was received from a reader who wishes to remain anonymous. I personally find it very thought provoking.)

This letter is in reference to the red and white bumper stickers that are displayed around town stating that "XXXX Happens." For these real macho guys (?) or women (notice I said women, not ladies) who feel they need to display such a big bad cuss word out front, I feel sorry for them. I went through the teen-age stage where the vocabulary is explored. I also outgrew it. I played high school sports, I've been in the locker room, I've heard all the b-g, bad cuss words. But we outgrew that, too.

Come on, folks, are we really that uncouth? Have we degenerated down to nothing? I have a little old grandmother (no, not still operate a car and drive a no brakes, no violations (never out of gas.) I have that old man (no, not a really old man, but a really old man) who also knows of a really old word that I've never heard of. There have not been exposed to gutter talk, fish and profanity.

How about it? Will some of you pull those "XXXX Happens" stickers off your car, at least if you drive on public roads?

Name withheld by request

POLL INDICATES THAT AIDS THIRD-BIGGEST CONCERN OF YOUTH

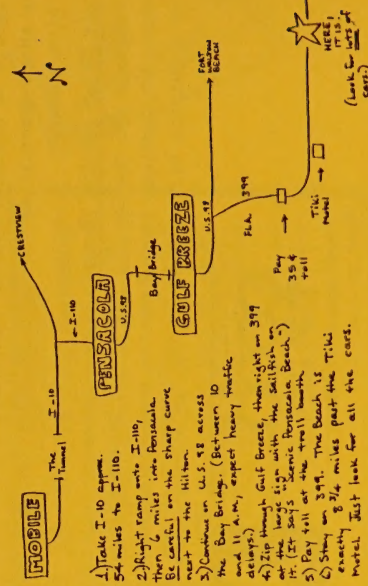
A nationwide poll of young people aged 8-17 indicates that AIDS is the third-biggest concern of youth, after the fear of kidnapping and the third-most common fear of death. The American Youth Poll of 1,000 kids, conducted by the Roper Foundation, also revealed that the majority of adolescents favor allowing gays to teach.

United Press International reported that the poll also found, of the respondents:

- * 65% said they are very concerned about the spread of AIDS, while 20% said they are somewhat concerned and 10% claimed not to be very much concerned.
- * 40% said students with AIDS should be allowed in schools, whereas 43% said they should not.
- * 49% of teen-age respondents said gays should be allowed to be teachers, while 41% offered the opposite view; 8% said they didn't know.
- * 1% said they did not know what homosexuals are.

SECRET ORDER OF OSIRIS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24

The Order of Osiris is sponsoring a beach happening at the "333 Beach," east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:



State	Number of Cases	Number of Cases	Number of Cases
Alabama	9720	10660	1
Alaska	783	783	1
Arizona	2004	2004	1
Arkansas	2004	2004	1
California	2004	2004	1
Colorado	2004	2004	1
Connecticut	2004	2004	1
Delaware	2004	2004	1
District of Columbia	2004	2004	1
Florida	2004	2004	1
Georgia	2004	2004	1
Hawaii	2004	2004	1
Idaho	2004	2004	1
Illinois	2004	2004	1
Indiana	2004	2004	1
Iowa	2004	2004	1
Kansas	2004	2004	1
Kentucky	2004	2004	1
Louisiana	2004	2004	1
Maine	2004	2004	1
Maryland	2004	2004	1
Massachusetts	2004	2004	1
Michigan	2004	2004	1
Minnesota	2004	2004	1
Mississippi	2004	2004	1
Missouri	2004	2004	1
Montana	2004	2004	1
Nebraska	2004	2004	1
Nevada	2004	2004	1
New Hampshire	2004	2004	1
New Jersey	2004	2004	1
New Mexico	2004	2004	1
New York	2004	2004	1
North Carolina	2004	2004	1
North Dakota	2004	2004	1
Ohio	2004	2004	1
Oklahoma	2004	2004	1
Oregon	2004	2004	1
Pennsylvania	2004	2004	1
Rhode Island	2004	2004	1
South Carolina	2004	2004	1
South Dakota	2004	2004	1
Tennessee	2004	2004	1
Texas	2004	2004	1
Utah	2004	2004	1
Vermont	2004	2004	1
Virginia	2004	2004	1
Washington	2004	2004	1
West Virginia	2004	2004	1
Wisconsin	2004	2004	1
Wyoming	2004	2004	1
Total	2004	2004	1

Of these, 20,241 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

ALABAMA?
75 LAST MONTH
108 THIS MONTH

19 3002, 2,765 were counted.
In 1983, 5,531 were counted.
In 1984, 5,494 were counted.
In 1985, 10,021 were counted.

CULTURAL ARTS CALENDAR

SUMMER 1987

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| MAY 11 | City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Washington Square. |
| MAY 14-17 | "Albabe Off," Theatre USA/Drama Department, University of South Alabama, Mottly Jr. Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM. |
| MAY 15 | John H. Oester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South Alabama Music Department, Humanities Building Addition, 815 PM. |
| MAY 21 | University of South Alabama Symphonic Band, Concert, Seeger Theatre, 815 PM. 4:50-6:15 PM. |
| MAY 28-JUNE 3 | "The Heavy Feet," Joe Jefferson Players, 11 South Garden Street, 815 PM and 2 PM Sunday matinee, dark house Monday, 4:11-15:47. |
| JUNE 3 | Schumann Music Club "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal Church, 630 PM. 4:52-11:21, 3:42-8:07. |
| MAY 31-JUNE 5-7 | "Pride and Prejudice," Rixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, 2:30 PM Sunday matinee. 3:44-15:31. |
| JUNE 8 | City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavilion, Langan Park. |
| JUNE 19- | |

Did Tammy Faye Do 'Monster Mash Behind Jimmy's Back?

[illegible]

Spanish Lesbians Stage Kissing Protest

WALNUT STATION — Last January, two lesbians were arrested for consensual, resting arrest and public outcry for kissing in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol. When they were approached by the officer and asked for identification, an argument ensued which led to the eventual arrests. The women were held in a jail security facility for 48 hours before they were released. They reportedly were mistreated and indicated that they were held in custody. The next week, several hundred lesbians gathered at the site of the arrest and staged a mass kiss. The peaceful protest saw the women changing slogans of gay and lesbian oppression and encouraging passers-by to kiss them.

DYNAMICS of BIBLICAL FAITH

Faith is not something totally intellectual, like finding the answer to a math problem. The old priest in "The Exorcist" came close to the idea of biblical faith when he said:

"I think belief in God is not a matter of reason at all; I think it finally is a matter of love, accepting the possibility that God could love us."

Biblical faith is loving trust in God—even in the face of intellectual difficulties. For example, when God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham's human reason told him that Isaac was the vehicle by which God's earlier promises to him would be carried out. Had he relied solely on reason, he would have put aside his trust in God. But he DID NOT. He chose to trust even in the face of deep intellectual turmoil.

Because biblical faith involved loving trust, it also demanded personal risk. A good example today is the uncertainty in relationships. Neither can be absolutely sure the other person will be there should major difficulties arise. We have no intellectual certainty.

Biblical faith was something like this. It always involved a knowledge gap that loving trust alone could bridge.

Biblical faith is pictured as an ongoing process. The biggest mistake a person can make is to think that some day s/he will "get the faith" and never have any more questions about it.

young man: "One day I decided to make God the center of my life. This decision gave me unbelievable peace and joy. But, two days later, I did something that no believer would ever do. I was totally discouraged and concluded that I had not really committed myself to God at all. I had only psyched myself into believing I had." But then I

realized something important. I realized that when we commit ourselves to God, we commit only that part of ourselves which we are aware of at the moment. That's all anyone can do."

Psychology tells us that the greater part of ourselves lies below our consciousness. It surfaces only gradually with each new experience. This means that we are constantly evolving and changing as individuals. Thus, Faith-Commitment is never achieved by one decision on one occasion. It is an ongoing process.

Biblical faith involved periods of darkness. It had a way of going in and out of focus. Many of us modern believers report similar experiences. There are times when our faith seems to go behind a cloud, even seems lost. We undergo a "dark night of the soul," a kind of "trial by fire" as Abraham did.

The remarkable thing about us that after being in doubt or totally lost for a time, faith recovered or faith renewed is often much stronger and more powerful.

This is why we in MCC who have been through our faith crises and intellectual dilemmas and regained our belief, or gained new beliefs which have grown out of our past faith, have an unspeakable faith which nothing can move. We have proved for ourselves the claim that Father Mark Link makes [above] in These Stones Will Shout.

THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY
AND ESPECIALLY GOLDEN ROD & THE
SOCIETY LOUNGE FOR RAISING \$600
FOR THE
MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!!

GAY PRIDE

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

HOMOSEXUAL:
LESBIAN:

CLOSE:

GAY:

GAY IDENTITY:

GAY PRIDE:

HOMOPHOBIA:

HOMOPHOBIC:

**HOMOSEXUAL
OPPRESSION:**

OPPRESSION SICKNESS:

LATERAL OPPRESSION:

To have an erotic preference for members of one's own sex. Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences, if one is a woman.

A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life; cloisteredness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community.

Positive gay identification; used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

A word coined by George Weinberg (Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

Dr. Alice Fennel, Columbia University, has found that most homosexuals (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression:

1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.
2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply only until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what homosexuals do not choose to deal with or which frighten them.
3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.)

The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-abuse, etc.) and latent hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i.e., repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

TALKING LIBERATION (Continued)

GAYTOWNSHIP:

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

GENTRIFICATION:

The willing take-over of a run-down area by middle and upper class people; reclaiming a slum area -- unfortunately often pushing out poorer inhabitants by escalating property values beyond their ability to afford housing in the area. However, gays have often been able to reclaim abandoned areas in a positive way that does not damage other oppressed people. (Suggestion for downtown Mobile, anyone? (Biblical) A burnt offering. Used of the Hitler regime's annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews, Gypsies, Gays, political dissidents and other oppressed people whom Hitler destroyed in a wide-ranging rampage of personal hatred of people he identified as "other" or "different."

THE HOLOCAUST:

GAY LIBERATION:

HOMOPHILIA:

HOMOPHILIC MOVEMENT:

Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1897 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years. (Sometimes called Feminism). In 1823, Sarah Moore Grimké, late to be one of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimké Weld, as

WOMEN'S LIBERATION:

"I ask no favors for my sex. All I ask of my brethren is that they treat us with the same equality of women: social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation."

ACTIVIST:

A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a political group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

MCC IS PEOPLE
CARING
ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn
we do not condone
we try to understand

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition...[in that] when Jesus cured lepers he touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history".



moving??
Be sure to
give us your
new address!

B	I	N	G	O
8	2	4	4	3
1	2	1	6	3
7	2	7	4	4
4	2	1	3	5
1	5	3	0	4
5	6	6	9	

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bewailing and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accomodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36635 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when. Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

.



The Metropolitan Community Church

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

AT MOBILE

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

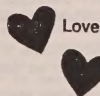
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



Yourself

GAY PRIDE __ WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night -- it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant barge (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement!") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSLD (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms -- they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" -- those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harragays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared -- Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Gimme a "G" " "Gimme an "A" " "Gimme a "Y" " -- Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!"

CSLD handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: For the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day.

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction...Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day -- yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.

DID YOU HEAR... WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW?

"Jim has very seldom seen me without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyelashes."
Tommy Roy Bakker,
wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker,
in the forthcoming book Christian Wives

"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. It has no place for amusement parks."
Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart,
denouncing colleague Jim Bakker,
president of the PTL Network and religious theme park, upon revelations that Bakker had cheated on his wife and submitted to blackmail

"You erred by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakkers have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and an albatross to legitimate religion."

Letter to the Editor
Time (4/20/87)

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a sad mistake."
Dr. Alan Xenakis,
health expert at WNEV/Boston,
on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV

"Bombing is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game."
Lieutenant Commander Beth Hubert,
U.S. Navy pilot

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals, of the young and the old, of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on."

C. Everett Koop



**IT TAKES
 COURAGE
 TO ADMIT
 TO YOUR
 DRUG OR ALCOHOL
 PROBLEM.**

1. Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.
2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest rooms. People seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. *Gay Pride* is a good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?
5. Bring someone to the Rap Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the raps, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure YOU welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR

Sometimes church members -- or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes -- ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone visits the church we see to it that the usher hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry -- in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "From the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

"In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr.

"The UFMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital.

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the "Briggs Initiative" which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978.

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people -- of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern.

"At our General Conference in 1983, UFMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregational and denominational levels.

READER WRITES THAT BUMPER STICKERS ARE OBJECTIONABLE

METROPOLITAN CHURCH AT MOBILE
4500 Bit & Spur Road (West Mobile)
Sunday services: 7:00 PM
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)

DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
6345 Old Shell Road (West Mobile)
Sunday services: 10:45 AM

MOBILE AIDS FUND
P. O. Box 1491
Mobile, Alabama 36601

CLUB PARK AVENUE
7 South Joachim Street
Disco - Show Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos
Total Entertainment Complex

TROOPERS

Cruise Bar - Patio - Pool - Videos

54 South Conception Street
Neighborhood Bar - Pool -

GOLDEN ROD
219 Conti Street
Dancing - Pool - Videos - Music

THE SOCIETY LOUNGE
Disco - Show Bar - Pool - Videos - Music

tips

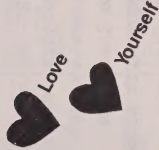
Share your deepest, darkest secret.... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin Restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

CRAB PATE

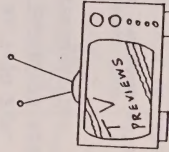
1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
8 oz. fresh crab meat
1 10-oz. can cream of chicken
soup
3/4 cup mayonnaise
4 ribs of celery, finely
chopped
1 small white onion, finely
chopped
1 envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatine in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a shaping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.

Moving??
Be sure to
give us your
new address!



18, Gay Pride



HARD CHOICES (1984) Margaret Klenck, John Seitz. A social worker with a "rich hippie" background meets a poor 15-year-old Tennessee mountain boy facing trial as an adult for murder. Rick King wrote and directed this drama. HBO, May 11, 17, 21, 29.

I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM (1986) An adopted sixteen-year-old girl begins a quest to trace her natural parents in this poignant story about familial love. The contemporary drama focuses on how her investigation affects her adoptive parents, and how she is received by her natural father and mother. SHO, May 12, 17, 21, 27.

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT COUNTS (1974) Vincent Price, Elke Sommer, Leigh Lawson. An unusual tale about the world's first genital-transplant recipient. The gongola-on prove to be nothing short of hilarious.

MAKING LOVE (1982) Kate Jackson, Michael Ontkean, Harry Hamlin. Jackson portrays a woman who goes into shock after discovering that her husband of eight years has homosexual tendencies. (on not) Ontkean is the talented young doctor who decides to open his closet door to director Arthur Hiller's sensitive tale. **TWC**, May 3, 6, 31.

DOG DAY AFTERNOON (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual bank robber-hostage holder. WGN, May 22, 1130 PM.

This letter is in reference to the red and white bumper stickers that are displayed around town stating that "XXX Happed" (sic) for these real macho guys (?) or women (notice I put women, not ladies) who feel they need to display such a big bad curse word on the front. I feel sorry for them. I went through the teen-age stage where the vocabulary is explored. I also outgrew it. I played high school sports. I've been in the locker room. I've heard all the big, bad curse words. But we outgrew that, too.

Come on, folks—are we really that uncouth? Have we degenerated down to nothing? I have a little old grandmother who can still operate a car and drive (no wrecks, no violations or even out of gas). I suspect that she has to put up with those "XXX Happens" bumper stickers. I also know of a few really good children out there who have not been exposed to gutter talk, filth and profanity.

How about it? Will some of you pull those off your car, at least if you drive on public roads?

Name withheld by request

POLL INDICATES THAT AIDS THIRD-BIGGEST CONCERN OF YOUTH

A nationwide poll of young people aged 8-17 indicates that AIDS is the third-biggest concern of youth, after the fear of kidnapping and the threat of nuclear war. The American Child Youth Poll of 1,000 kids, conducted by the Roper Foundation, also revealed that the majority of adolescents favor allowing gays to teach.

United Press International reported that the poll also found, of the respondents:

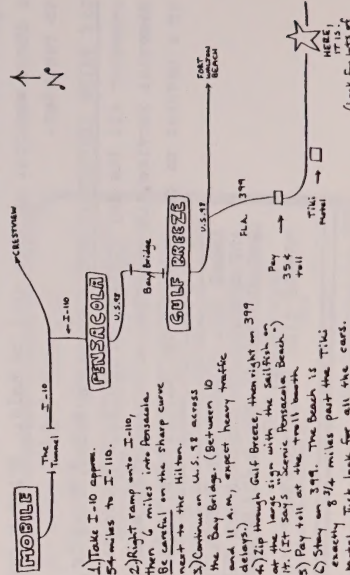
- * 65% said they are very concerned about the spread of AIDS, while
- 20% said they are somewhat concerned and 10% claimed not to be very

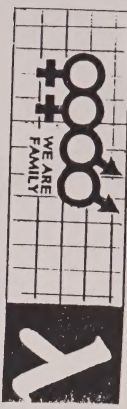
* 40% said students with AIDS should be allowed in schools, whereas 43% said they should not.

* 49% of teen-age respondents said Gays should be allowed to be teachers, while 41% offered the opposite view; 8% said they didn't know.

~~SECRET ORDER OF OSIRIS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24~~

The Order of Oalris is sponsoring a beach happening at the "Gay Beach," east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:





TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

LESBIAN:

CLOSET:

GAY:

GAY IDENTITY:

GAY PRIDE:

HOMOPHOBIA:

HOMOPHOBIC:

HOMOSEXUAL OPPRESSION:

OPPRESSION SICKNESS:

LATENT OPPRESSION:

To have an erotic preference for members of one's own sex. Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences. (If one is a woman. A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life: closetedness. Implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world. Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg) A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community. Positive gay identification: used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's. A word coined by George Weinberg, Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution." Dr. Alice Fennessay, Columbia University, has found that most homophobes (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression: 1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill. 2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply only until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what homophobes do not choose to deal with or which frighten them. 3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.) The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-abuse, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups. The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group: i. e. repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

TALKING LIBERATION (Continued)

GHETTOIZATION:

THE HOLOCAUST:

GAY LIBERATION:

HOMOPHILE:

HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT:

WOMEN'S LIBERATION:

ACTIVIST:

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure): often a neglected and run down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society. The willing take-over of a run-down area by middle and upper class people: reclaiming a slum area -- unfortunately often pushing out poorer inhabitants by escalating property values beyond their ability to afford housing in the area. However, gays have often been able to reclaim abandoned areas in a positive way that does not damage other oppressed people. (Suggestion for downtown Mobile, anyone? (Biblical) A burnt offering. Used of the Hitler regime's annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews. Gypsies, gays, political dissidents and other oppressed people whom Hitler destroyed in a wide-ranging rampage of personal hatred of people he identified as "other" or "different." The demand for full opportunity for integration (whether we take it or not) of our whole selves into the large society along the lines of our choosing and talents, and for the same privileges and protection to be extended to the relationships, organizations, and institutions of gays and lesbian people as are extended to the heterosexual relationships, organizations, and institutions. (Geyer) A lover of gay people; the desire to be with, enjoy the association with gay/lesbian people in a positive environment. Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1897 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years. (Sometimes called Feminism) In 1828, Sarah Moore Grimké, later to be one of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimké Weld, said: "I ask no favors for my sex, all I ask of my brethren is that they let their feet from off our necks." The social, civil, religious, and sexual equality of women; social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation. A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a social group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

MCC IS PEOPLE CARING ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn we do not condone we try to understand

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague. He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition....(in that) when Jesus cured lepers he touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history."

B	I	N	G	O
8	2 4	4 3	5 5	7 2
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7	2 7	4 4	6 0	7 5
4	2 1	3 5	5 4	7 3
1 5	3 0	4 5	5 6	6 9

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
\$1 PER CARD
PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

35,068 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC**
as of April 27, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10660	Minnesota	192
New York City	9720	Arizona	181
California	7863	Indiana	154
San Francisco	4004	Oregon	154
Los Angeles	3002	South Carolina	129
Florida	2337	Hawaii	126
Miami	1029	Wisconsin	111
Ft. Lauderdale	414	Alabama	108
Texas	2255	Oklahoma	105
Houston	1134	Tennessee	103
Dallas	841	Nevada	87
New Jersey	2119	Kentucky	79
Newark	844	Rhode Island	70
Jersey City	410	Kansas	68
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	410	Utah	60
Illinois	367	Arkansas	56
Chicago	769	New Mexico	55
Pennsylvania	754	Delaware	48
Philadelphia	614	Mississippi	48
Georgia	716	Maine	42
Atlanta	562	Iowa	41
Massachusetts	708	Nebraska	28
Boston	522	New Hampshire	27
District of Columbia	643	Alaska	25
Maryland	526	West Virginia	25
Washington	426	Vermont	13
Louisiana	421	Idaho	9
Connecticut	408	Montana	8
Virginia	402	Virgin Islands	7
Colorado	360	Wyoming	7
Ohio	351	North Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	328	South Dakota	4
Michigan	316	Guam	1
Missouri	221	Territory	1
North Carolina	210	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	493

Of these, 20,241 (approximately 58 percent) are
adequately

not reported by the CDC do not conform to its strict
definition, and are therefore not officially counted or
reported.

In 1981, 261 cases of AIDS were counted by the
CDC.

In 1982, 999 were counted.
In 1983, 2,755 were counted.
In 1984, 5,531 were counted.
In 1985, 9,484 were counted.
In 1986, 10,021 were counted.

** The AIDS cases officially reported by the Centers
for Disease Control reflected approximately only 10 per-
cent of the actual number of AIDS cases in the United
States. The tens of thousands of other AIDS cases

Did Tammy Faye Do 'Monster Mash' Behind Jimmy's Back?

WASHINGTON — More in the endless saga of PTL clubbers Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker: Now it seems that Tammy Faye was carrying on with country and western singer/songwriter, Gary Paxton, famous for his musical compositions: *All Oop*, and *The Monster Mash*. Paxton, who produced Tammy Faye's late-70s albums, was said to spend many late nights with the songwriter. This, reported to be singer's ex-wife this week, led Jimmy to repeatedly call the Paxton home and make threats to Paxton. *Charisma*, a Pentecostal magazine, reported that this is what prompted Bakker into his sexual tryst with Jessica Hahn. Also this week's revelation that Hahn was "recruited" into having sex with Bakker by another fundamentalist preacher who, after having sex with Hahn himself, went on to preach on television and state, "God really ministered to us today." To which Bakker replied, "Yes I need more rest like that." This thing gets more sordid by the minute, doesn't it?

Spanish Lesbians Stage Kissing Protest

MADRID, Spain — Last January, two lesbians were arrested for contempt of law and public outrage for kissing in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol. When they were approached by the officer and asked for identification, an argument ensued which led to the eventual arrests. The women were held in a high security facility for 48 hours before they were released. They reportedly were mistreated and ridiculed repeatedly while in custody. The next week, several hundred lesbians gathered at the site of the arrest and staged a mass kiss-in. The peaceful protest saw the women chanting slogans of gay and lesbian oppression and encouraging passers-by to kiss them.

CULTURAL ARTS CALENDAR SUMMER 1987

MAY 11	City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Washington Square.
MAY 14-17	"Noises Off," Theatre USA/Drama Department, University of South Alabama, Monty L. Moorser Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM.
MAY 15	John H. Chester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South Alabama Music Department, Humanities Building Auditorium, 815 PM.
MAY 21	University of South Alabama Symphonic Band, Concert, Saenger Theatre, 815 PM. 460-6136.
MAY 28-JUNE 3	"The Hasty Heart," Joe Jefferson Players, 11 South Carlen Street, 815 PM and 2 PM Sunday matinee, dark house Monday. 471-1534.
MAY 31	Schumann Music Club, "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal Church, 230 PM. 452-1121, 342-4075.
JUNE 5-7, 12-14	"Faerie Tale Theatre," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, 230 PM Sunday matinee. 344-1537.
JUNE 8	City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavilion, Langan Park.
JUNE 19-21, 26, 27	"Best of Friends," Theatre 98, 151 South Church Street, Fairhope, Alabama, 8 PM, Sunday matinee 3 PM. 928-4366.
JUNE 29	City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, StarBright Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavilion, Langan Park.
JULY 7-OCTOBER 3	"Dinosaurs Alive," Exploremus, 1906 Spring Hill Avenue, exhibition of fur and feather animals. 476-6873.
JULY 10-SEPTEMBER 5	"The Seven Year Itch," Entertainer Dinner Theatre, dinner 7 PM, curtain 8 PM. 473-8611.
JULY 17-25	"A Milton Brown Revue," South of the Salt Line Regional Theatre, Monty L. Moorser Theatre, St. Paul's School. 433-6000.
AUGUST 12-22	"Our Finest Nation," South of the Salt Line Theatre, Monty L. Moorser Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM. 433-6000.
AUGUST 13-16, 20-23, 27-30	"Cinderella," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, Sunday matinee 2 PM. 344-1537.

CHURCH NEWS FROM THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE

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THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY
AND ESPECIALLY GOLDEN ROD & THE
SOCIETY LOUNGE FOR RAISING \$600
FOR THE
MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!!!

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bewailing and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accomodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when.

Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

.....



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



Love



Yourself

WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1. Bat at Golden Rod - get ticket to get into show at Society	1. Kick-off 2. Food 4-8:30 GoldenRod \$3.50. MGLCC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM		3.	4.	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6. Dignity spaghetti supper at GoldenRod \$3.00/plate
7. Corral Wrong Show 8 PM	8. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Corral 7 PM	9.	10. Gayly Wed Game at Troopers 8 PM	11. MOBILE AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM show at the Society 8 PM	12.	13. Styx River canoe trip \$15.00 (\$8 canoe, \$2 drink, \$5 bus)
14. Society Divorce Court 8 PM (no cover)	15. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	16.	17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18.	19.	20. OSIRIS Monte Carlo Night at Troopers 9 PM (no cover)
21. All bars - Scavenger Hunt 5 PM \$2 for food MOBILE AIDS FUND Corral	22. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Golden Rod 7 PM	23.	24. MGLCC Vigil for AIDS Bienville Sq. 7 PM bring a candle	25. Golden Rod Dating Game 8 PM (no cover)	26.	27. MGLCC speaker at Unitarian Universalist Church 7 PM wine & cheese
28. PRIDE PICNIC and T-shirt contest Games-food-fun \$3.50	29. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at CPA 7 PM & 10 PM MGLCC Board meeting	30. MGLCC PRIDE AWARDS NIGHT AIDS Bingo & Jackpot Night	"Dunk the Pastor" at the picnic MGLCC & AIDS Buddies will staff the booth for 2hrs			

GAY PRIDE — WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night — it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant barge (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSLD (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butteflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Whitechapel Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butteflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Gimme a 'G' — 'Gimme an 'A' — 'Gimme a 'Y' — Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!"

CSLD handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: For the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day."

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction.... Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day — yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.



BEST EVER! Third Edition!

The Whole Gay Catalog

For gay men and lesbians, their families and friends, this **THIRD EDITION** of **THE WHOLE GAY CATALOG** brings the world of lesbian and gay literature as close as your telephone or mailbox. Offers a multitude of **BOOKS**, plus **VIDEOS, RECORDS & TAPES, GIFTS**, and more! Over 100 pages indexed. **ORDER YOURS NOW! FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING GAY AND LESBIAN BOOKSTORE!**

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Name _____
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DID YOU HEAR...

"I am very seldom seen me without make-up and hardly ever in my life without my eyelashes." *Tammy Faye Bakker, wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, in the forthcoming book Christian Wives*

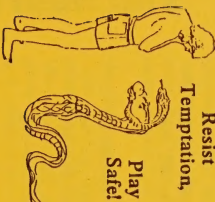
"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. It has no place for amusement parks." *Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart, denouncing colleague Jim Bakker, president of the PTL Network, and religious theme park, upon revelations that Bakker had cheated on his wife and submitted to blackmail*

"I am erred by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakers have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and an abhorrence to legitimate religion." *Letter to the Editor, Time (4/20/87)*

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a mistake." *Dr. Alan Y. Kohn, health expert, ABC-TV/News on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV*

"Bombing is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game." *Lieutenant Commander Rich Huber, US Navy pilot*

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals of the young and the old, of the moral and the immoral, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on." *C. Everett Koop*



IT TAKES COURAGE TO ADMIT DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW?

1. Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.
2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest rooms, people seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. *GayFriends* is a good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?
5. Bring someone to the Rap Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the tapes, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure you welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Sometimes church members - or more especially church attendees who have not some through our new members' classes - ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone calls "The church we see to it that the usher hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry - in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "From the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr.

"The UFMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital."

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the "Bridges Initiative" which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978."

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people - of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern."

"At our General Conference in 1983, UFMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregational and denominational levels."

Go with us

READER WRITES THAT BUMPER STICKERS ARE OBJECTIONABLE

Kitchen tips

Share your deepest, darkest secret... recipe with us. This month's feature is from the Boy On A Dolphin Restaurant at Pensacola Beach.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
6345 Old Shell Road (West Mobile)
Sunday services: 10:45 AM

CRAB PATE

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 8 oz. fresh crab meat
- 1 10-oz. can cream of chicken soup

mayonnaise

small white onion, finely chopped
envelope of gelatine

Heat soup in saucepan. Dissolve gelatin in 3 tablespoons hot water and add to soup. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients, add to soup. Blend very thoroughly and pour into a shaping mold of your choice. Refrigerate at least 2-3 hours, until very firm. Remove from mold and serve with Triscuits or your favorite cracker.

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"At that same conference, two other resolutions were passed in support of a freeze on nuclear weapons -- world peace and justice are urgent concerns of our world-wide fellowship.

"In this day of theological debate and sociological struggle for the status of women in a number of Christian denominations and Jewish communities, it is significant to note that UFMCC is committed to eradicating sexism in its theology, structure, and language as well as its relationship between men and women. At the 1981 General Conference, UFMCC passed specific guidelines for the use of inclusive language in its worship and life.

"Guided by this image of its life and mission, UEMCC has spread around the world with over 200 churches and has hundreds of active clergy and lay leaders and nearly 50,000 members, friends and adherents...Perhaps the mission of UEMCC can best be summarized in the words of Elder Emeritus John Hose, "Never losing sight of Jesus' remarkable invitation to all humankind, we have proceeded with dignity, perseverance and veracity to proclaim 'Freedom and justice for all,' by the Grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

HARD CHOICE (1984) Margaret Klenck, John Seitz. A social worker with a "rich hippie" background meets a poor 15-year-old Tennessee mountain boy facing trial as an adult for murder. Rick King wrote and directed this drama. HBO, May 11, '87, 21, 29.

I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM (1986) An adopted sixteen-year-old girl begins a quest to trace her natural parents in this poignant story about familial love. The contemporary drama focuses on how her investigation affects her adoptive parents, and how she is received by her natural father and mother. SHO.

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT COUNTS (1974) Vincent Price, Elke Sommer, Leigh Lawson. An unusual tale about the world's first genital-transplant recipient. The goings-on prove to be nothing short of hilarious.

MAKING LOVE (1982) Kate Jackson, Michael Ontkean, Sherry Hamlin. Jackson portrays a woman who goes into a marriage believing that her husband of eight years has homosexual tendencies (oh no!) Ontkean is the talented young doctor who decides to open his closet door in director Arthur Hiller's sensitive tale. **INC**, May 3, 6, 31.

DOG DAY AFTERNOON (1972) Al Pacino plays a homosexual bank robber-hostage holder. MGN, May 22, 11:30 PM.

POLL INDICATES THAT AIDS THIRD-BIGGEST CONCERN OF YOUTH

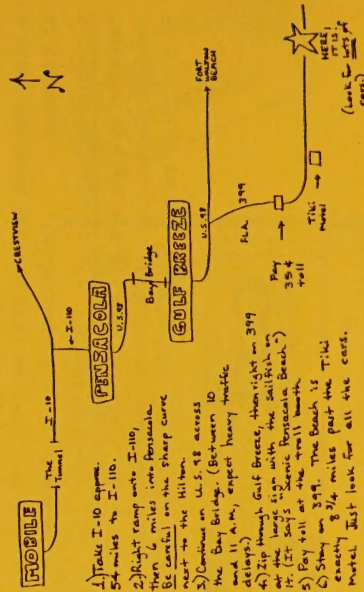
A nationwide poll of young people aged 8-17 indicates that AIDS is the third-biggest concern of youth, after the fear of kidnapping and the threat of nuclear war. The American Child Youth Poll of 1,000 kids, conducted by the Roper Foundation, also revealed that the majority of adolescents favor allowing Gays to teach.

United Press International reported that the poll also found, of the respondents:

- * 95% said they are very concerned about the spread of AIDS, while 20% said they are somewhat concerned and 10% claimed not to be very much concerned.
- * 40% said students with AIDS should be allowed in schools, whereas 43% said they should not.
- * 59% of teenagers said Gays should be allowed to be teachers, while 38% said they shouldn't.
- * 8% of the opposite-sex kids are.

SECRET ORDER OF OSIRIS SPONSORING BEACH PARTY MAY 24

The Order of Oquirris is sponsoring a beach happening at the "Gday Beach," east of Pensacola, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday, May 24, 1987. If you've never been to this beach, consider going. It is reputed to be the largest beach of its kind between Galveston, Texas and Sarasota, Florida. Directions appear below:



(Look for
card)

.....210 **Pediatrics**

75 LAST MONTH
108 THIS MONTH

dead.

states. The tens of thousands of other AIDS cases in 1986, 10,021 were counted

SUMMER 1987

27-30.

Bring Jimmy's Back.

And this thing gets more sordid by the minute, doesn't it?

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

them.

DYNAMICS OF BIBLICAL FAITH

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MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM!!!!

GHEOTTOIZATION:

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

The willing take-over of a run-down area by middle and upper class people; reclaiming a slum area -- unfortunately often pushing out poorer inhabitants by escalating property values beyond their ability to afford housing in the area. However, gays have often been able to reclaim abandoned areas in a positive way that does not damage other oppressed people. (Suggestion for downtown Mobile, anyone? Biblical) A burnt offering. Used of the Hitler regime's annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews, Gypsies, Gays, political dissidents and other oppressed people whom Hitler destroyed in a wide-ranging rampage of personal hatred of people he identified as "other" or "different."

The demand for full opportunity for integration (whether we take it or not) of our whole selves into the large society along the lines of our choosing and talents, and for the same privileges and protection to be extended to the relationships, organizations, and institutions of gay and lesbian people as are extended to the heterosexual's relationships, organizations, and institutions. (Geyer)

A lover of gay people; the desire to be with, enjoy the association with gay/lesbian people in a positive environment.

HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT: Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1937 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION: (Sometimes called Feminism). In 1839, Sarah Moore Grimké, late to be one of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimké Weld, said: "I talk no favors for my sex, all I ask of my brethren is that they take their feet from off our necks." The social, civil, religious, and sexual equality of women; social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation.

ACTIVIST: A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a social group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

GAY PRIDE

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

HOMOSEXUAL LESBIAN: To have an erotic preference for members of one's own sex. Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences, if one is a woman.

CLOSET: A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life; closetedness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

GAY: Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

GAY IDENTITY: A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community.

GAY PRIDE: Positive gay identification; used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

HOMOPHOBIA: A word coined by George Weinberg (Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

HOMOPHOBIC OPPRESSION: Dr. Alice Fennessey, Columbia University, has found that most homophobes (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. These layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression:

1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.
 2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what homophobes do not choose to deal with or which frighten them.
 3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.)
- The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-abuse, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

LATERAL OPPRESSION: The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i.e., repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition....[in that] when Jesus cured lepers he touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history".

*moving??
be sure to
give us your
new address!*



B	I	N	G	O
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1	2	1	6	3
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EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

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4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

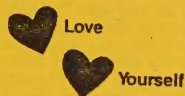
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



WE THE PEOPLE

STRONG...

PROUD...

UNITED

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For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the police and by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks just prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the Village or elsewhere. Eventually, the burned out hull of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant barge (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement!") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of Lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with CSLD (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

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"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction...Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

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Eat at Golden Rod - get ticket to get into show at Society	1. Kick-off Food 4-8:30 Golden Rod \$3.50. MGLCC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM	2.	3.	4.	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6. Ignition magnet upper AIDS Fund Zoo/
7. Corral Wrong Show 8 PM	8. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Corral 7 PM	9.	10. Gayly Wed Game at Troopers 8 PM	11. MOBILE AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM show at the Society 8 PM	12.	13. Styx River canoe trip \$15.00 canoe, drink, bus)
14. Society Divorce Court 8 PM (no cover)	15. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	16.	17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18.	19.	20. OSIRIS Date Carlo Night at Troopers 9 PM (no cover)
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Washington, DC, 20009



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'87 Gay Pride



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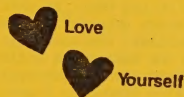
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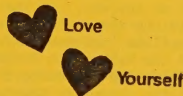
Pastor

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NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



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STRONG...

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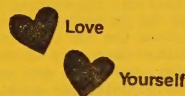
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CHURCH NEWS FROM THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE

AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM

MCC is now training its second group of buddies for people with AIDS: The third Monday of every month the trainees meet at Springhill Hospital where social workers, mental health counselors, nurses, doctors, clergy and others help them learn about the needs of people with AIDS and how to meet those needs. Upcoming sessions include: Monday, May 18 - How to listen to someone in trouble; Monday, June 22 and 29 - Home nursing the person with AIDS.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE

MCC will be presenting a six-week series on the Biblical passages which deal with homosexuality:

- August 4: About the Bible - what it is, how it was written, how it came to us
- August 11: Source/textual criticism and why and how we use them to study the historical/cultural background of the Bible
- August 18: "The Big Eight" - the Old Testament
- August 25: "The Big Eight" - the New Testament
- September 1: Contra Natura: how the church has traditionally viewed homosexuality
- September 8: "Free from the Law" - saved by grace, how the church is beginning to look at homosexuality in light of modern thought, psychology and spirituality.

HE'S RUNNING FOR AIDS

Brent Nicholson Earle is a New York playwright, totally committed to bringing AIDS to the nation's attention. He will be in Mobile beginning Saturday, May 16, running 22 miles a day from New Orleans via Biloxi to be here. You can meet Brent Earle at the bars Saturday night, at MCC on Sunday night (May 17) or at Buddy training on Monday (May 18) at 7:30 P.M. Get involved! Buy a button or a t-shirt to help support this one man's effort to build visibility for AIDS research, treatment and humane treatment for persons with AIDS.

AIDS PRAYER VIGIL

MCC at Mobile's annual Vigil of Prayer for persons with AIDS and act of remembrance for those who have died of AIDS will be held in Bienville Square in downtown Mobile, Wednesday, June 24 at 7:00 P.M. Music, prayer and a short memorial service will be held. Bring a candle for each person you want to remember.

GAY PRIDE SERVICE AT MCC Sunday evening, June 28, at 7:00, MCC's service will remember all the gay victims of Hitler's holocaust in our annual Gay Pride Memorial Service, in addition to remembering everyone who has been a martyr or a patriot to the cause of Gay Liberation. All are invited to attend.



DID YOU HEAR...

"Jim has very seldom seen me without makeup and barely ever in my life without my eyeliner. I'm the wife of a disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker in the forthcoming book Christian Wives

"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. It has no place for amusement parks."

Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart, denouncing colleague Jim Bakker, president of the PTL Network and religious theme park, upon revelations the wife and submitted to blackmail

"You errred by placing your story about Jim and Tammy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakkens have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and are allbances to legitimate religion."

Letter to the Editor
Time (4/20/87)

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a real mistake."

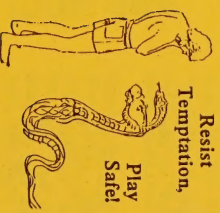
Dr. Alan Xenakis, health expert at WYVE/Visioun, on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV

"Bombing is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game."

Lieutenant Commander Ruth Hubert, US Navy pilot

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexuals of the young and the old, of the moral and the immoral, the mature and the immature. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on."

C. Everett Koop



IT TAKES COURAGE TO ADMIT TO YOUR DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC HOSTILE GROUP?

1. Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, "I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile." Tell them.
2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest room. People seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. Gay Friends is a good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?
5. Bring someone to the Rag Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the rag, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure you welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Sometimes church members — or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes — ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone visits the church we see to it that the usher hands them a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry — in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "from the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Peetry."

In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Peetry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Peetry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr.

"The UFMCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital."

"In 1977, Rev. Peetry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the 'Briggs Initiative' which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Peetry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978."

"MCC pastors and laity have been civil rights leaders in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. At the same time our concerns have never been limited to gay and lesbian rights. MCC stands firm in its opposition to racism and sexism in all their insidious forms. The needs of hungry and homeless people — of refugees, of persons in prison, and of persons in our own neighborhoods have been our concern."

"At our General Conference in 1983, UFMCC passed a resolution outlining our response to the AIDS crisis. It calls for active pastoral care and leadership in education, political activism, and social responsibility to the local congregational and denominational levels."

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State	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York City	9,720	10,650	Arizona	1,927
California	7,863		Indiana	1,541
San Francisco	3,044		Texas	1,540
Los Angeles	3,065		Georgia	1,471
Florida	2,337		Illinois	1,371
Miami	1,029		Wisconsin	1,111
St. Louis	414	2,255	Ohio	1,084
Texas	1,134		Oklahoma	1,073
Houston	641	2,119	Tennessee	1,020
Dallas	844		Missouri	1,003
New York City	410		Rhode Island	850
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1,010	467	Kansas	850
Illinois	769		Idaho	68
Chicago	614	754	New Mexico	68
Pennsylvania	614		Delaware	48
Philadelphia	716		Alabama	45
Georgia	582	708	Mississippi	41
Atlanta	522		Iowa	41
Massachusetts	643		New Hampshire	28
District of Columbia	522		Alaska	25
Maryland	525		West Virginia	25
Washington	421		Utah	23
Louisiana	421		Nebraska	19
Connecticut	408		Montana	8
Colorado	362		Wyoming	7
Ohio	351		North Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	328		South Dakota	4
Illinois	210		Trial Territory	1
North Carolina	21		Pacific States (included in above)	483

Of these, 20,241 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

75 LAST MONTH
108 THIS MONTH

•• The AIDS cases officially reported by the Centers for Disease Control reflected approximately only 10 percent of the actual number of AIDS cases in the United States. The tens of thousands of other AIDS cases in 1983, 2,765 were counted. In 1984, 5,531 were counted. In 1985, 9,484 were counted. In 1986, 10,021 were counted.

CULTURAL ARTS CALENDAR

MAY 11 City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM,
Washington Square.
MAY 14-17 "Noises Off," Theatre USA/Drama Department, University of South
Alabama, Monty J. Moore Theatre, St. Paul's School, 815 PM.
MAY 15 John H. Chester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South
Alabama Music Department, Humanities Building Auditorium, 815 PM.
MAY 21 University of South Alabama Symphonic Band, Concert, Seenger
Theatre, 815 PM. 460-6136.
MAY 28-31 "The Happy Heart," Joe Jefferson Players, 11 South Garden Street,
815 PM and 2 PM Sunday matinee, dark house Monday. 471-1534.
MAY 31 Schumann Music Club, "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal
Church, 230 PM. 432-1121, 342-4075.
JUNE 5 "The Old State Theatre," Dixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM,
12-14 PM Sunday matinee, 344-1537.
JUNE 8 City of Mobile Symphonic Pops Band, Starbright Concert, 8 PM,
JUNE 19- performing Arts Pavilion, Langan Park.

Did Tammy Faye Do 'Monster Mash Behind Jimmy's Back?

WASHINGTON More in the endless saga of PTL, lobbyists Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker. Now it seems that Tammy Faye was cutting up with country and western singers' royalties. Gary Paxton, famous for his musical compositions *Like a Dog* and *The Morningstar*, Gary Paxton, who produced Tammy Faye's line-100 albums, was said to spend many nights with the singer. This, reported the singer's ex-wife this week, led Jimmy to repeatedly call the Paxton home and make threats to Paxton. *Charisma*, a Pentecostal magazine, reported that this is what prompted Bakker into his sexual tryst with Jessica Hahn. Also this week, revelations that Hahn was "reunited" and having sex with Bakker by another fundamentalist preacher who, after having sex with Hahn himself, went on to preach on television and state, "God really ministered to us today." To which Bakker replied, "Yes, I need more rest than that." This thing gets more corded by the minute, doesn't it?

Spanish Lesbians Stage Kissing Protest

MADRID, Spain — Last January, two lesbians were arrested for contempt of court after they refused to answer questions about their sexual orientation during a trial for resisting arrest and public outrage for missing in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol. When they were approached by the officer and asked for identification, an argument ensued which led to the eventual arrest. The women were held in a high security facility for 48 hours before they were released. They reportedly were mistreated and ridiculed repeatedly while in custody. The next week, several hundred lesbians gathered at the site of the arrest and staged a mass kiss-in. The peaceful protest saw the women chanting slogans of gay and lesbian oppression and encouraging parents-by-to-his-owners.

DYNAMICS OF BIBLICAL FAITH

Faith is not something totally intellectual, like finding the answer to a math problem. The old priest in "The Exorcist" came close to the idea of biblical faith when he said:

of reason at all; I think it finally is a matter of love, accepting the possibility that God could love us."

Biblical faith is loving trust in God—even in the face of intellectual difficulties. For example, when God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham's human reason told him that Isaac was the vehicle by which God's earlier promises to him would be carried out. Had he relied solely on reason, he could have put aside his trust in God. But he DID NOT. He chose to trust even in the face of deep intellectual turmoil.

Because biblical faith involved loving trust, it also demanded personal risk. A good example today is the uncertainty in relationships. Neither can be absolutely sure the other person will be. There should be major difficulties arise. We have no intellectual certainty.

Biblical faith was something like this. It always involved a knowledge gap that loving trust alone could bridge.

Biblical faith is pictured as an ongoing process. The biggest mistake a person can make is to think that some day s/he will "get the faith" and never have any more questions about it.

Psychology makes an interesting observation here. Consider this statement by a young man: "One day I decided to make God the center of my life. This decision gave me unbelievable peace and joy. But, two days later, I did something that no believer would ever do. I was totally discouraged and concluded that I had not really committed myself to God at all. I had only psyched myself into believing I had." But then I

realized something important. I realized that when we commit ourselves to God, we commit only that part of ourselves which we are aware of at the moment. That's all anyone can do."

Psychology tells us that the greater part of ourselves lies below our consciousness. It surfaces only gradually with each new experience. This means that we are constantly evolving and changing as individuals. Thus, Faith-Commitment is never achieved by one decision on one occasion. It is an ongoing process.

Biblical faith involved periods of darkness. It had a way of going in and out of focus. Many of us modern believers report similar experiences. There are times when our faith seems to go behind a cloud, even seems lost. We undergo a "dark night of the soul," a kind of "trial by fire" as Abraham did.

The remarkable thing about is that after being in doubt or totally lost for a time, faith recovered or faith renewed is often much stronger and more powerful.

This is why we in MCC who have been through our faith crises and intellectual dilemmas and regained our belief, or gained new beliefs which have grown out of our past faith, have an unshakeable faith which nothing can move. We have proved for ourselves the claim that Father Mark Link makes [above] in These Stones Will Shout.

THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY
AND ESPECIALLY GOLDEN ROD & THE
SOCIETY LOUNGE FOR RAISING \$6000
FOR THE
MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!!

TALKING LIBERATION (Continued)

GHE T T O I Z A T I O N:

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run down section which oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

GENTRIFICATION:

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

HOMOSEXUAL:

HOMOSEXUAL: To have an erotic preference for members of one's own sex.

LESBIAN: Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences. If one is a woman.

CLOSET:

CLOSET: A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life; closetedness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

GAY:

Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

GAY IDENTITY:

GAY IDENTITY: A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community.

GAY PRIDE:

GAY PRIDE: Young men and gay people in their community. Positive gay identification; used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

НОМОРФОВІА:

PHOBOPHOBIA: A word coined by George Weinberg Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

НОМОПНОВЕ:

Dr. Allen Bonness: Columbia University has found that most

HOMOSEXUAL

3. HOMOSEXUAL OPPRESSION:

Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression:

1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.

ADDRESS ONLY NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY IF MAILED IN
THE UNITED STATES

OPPRESSION SICKNESS: The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-abuse, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

LATERAL OPPRESSION:

LATERAL OPPRESSION: The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i. e., repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

MCC IS PEOPLE
CARING
ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn
we do not condone
we try to understand

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cheerier counter tradition...[in that] when Jesus cured lepers he touched them-- didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured-- he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history".

moving ??
Be sure to
give us your
new address!

B	I	N	G	
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
 ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
 \$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
 MOBILE AIDS FUND

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FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bawling and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

* * * * *

Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accomodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

* * * * *

I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when.

Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

.



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

4500 BIT AND SPUR ROAD

MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

Celebrate!

'87 Gay Pride



***WE THE PEOPLE
STRONG...
PROUD...
UNITED***

SUNDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1. Kick-off 2. Food 4-8:30 Goldenrod \$5.50. MGLCC & AIDS Fund show, Society Lounge, 9 PM	3.	4.	5. Deadline for money for Styx River trip	6. Dignity spaghetti supper at Goldenrod \$3.00/plate
7. Corral Wrong Show 8 PM	9. 8. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Corral 7 PM	10. Gayly Wed Game at Troopers 8 PM	11. MOBILE AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM show at the Society 8 PM	12. 13. Styx River canoe trip \$15.00 (\$8 canoe, \$2 drink, \$5 bus)
14. Society Divorce Court 8 PM (no cover)	15. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at Troopers 7 PM & 10 PM	16. 17. Club Park Avenue Wheel of Fortune 9 PM	18. 19.	20. CSIRS Monte Carlo Night at Troopers 9 PM (no cover)
21. All bars - Scavenger Hunt 5 PM \$2 for food MOBILE AIDS FUND start & end at Corral	22. MOBILE AIDS Bingo Rod 7 PM	23. 24. MCC Prayer Vigil for AIDS Bienville Sq. 7 PM bring a candle (no cover)	25. Golden Rod Dating Game 8 PM	26. 27. MCC speaker at Unitarian Universalists Church 7 PM wine & cheese
28. PRIDE PICNIC and T-shirt contest Games-food-fun \$3.50	29. MOBILE AIDS Bingo at CPA 7 PM & 10 PM MGLCC Board meeting	30. MGLCC PRIDE AWARDS NIGHT AIDS Bingo & Jackpot Night		

GAY PRIDE — WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Most of us know how gay pride got started. There were a group of drag queens hanging out at a bar in New York called the Stonewall. The cops decided to hassle the queens one night — it was hot, it was summer, and folks were just hanging out on Christopher Street. Maybe it was the heat, maybe it was the crowd, maybe the queens were just tired of being hassled, but before the evening was over, a new movement had been invented, and it wasn't a dance step.

For the first time in history, a group of gay men (and some women) decided that years of being pushed around by the policeman by society had to end somewhere, and it might as well be then and there. Five other bars had been raided and closed in the weeks prior to the Stonewall raid. The Tactical Patrol Force (riot squad) had been taken on by the gay community and told in no uncertain terms that their tactics were no longer going to work in the village or elsewhere. Eventually, they burned out of what had been pretty much a neighborhood hang-out for gays would become an elegant barge (a kind of New York Jewish hard roll which has been called "a donut dipped in cement") restaurant which is open all night, and the gays moved on to newer, hopefully better, surroundings. But something had happened.

A year later, June 28th 1970 the first gay pride march was held to commemorate the riots of the year before. At 11:00 a.m. the crowd began gathering for a march that would step off at 2:00 p.m. Thousands of lesbians and gay men began to congregate. Orange armbands with GLSD (Christopher Street Liberation Day) appear on gay arms — they have been chosen by the community to be "marshals" — those who would guarantee a peaceful march, both from outsiders wanting to harm gays, and from gays wanting to repeat the riots of the year before. The Annual Reminder" was on its way. In that year dozens of organizations had appeared — Gay Activists Association, Gay Liberation Front, Lesbian Liberation Front, the Red Butterflies, the Homophile Youth Movement, and many, many more. Conservatives joined the Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitis, radicals and Communist men joined the Red Butterflies, counseling services had sprung up, branches of Metropolitan Community Church were starting nationwide, taking the movement to the social, political and religious communities. And now, the parade of organizations, individuals, and small social groups was about to begin.

At 2:10 the shout began, "Glime a 'G' " "Glime an 'A' " "Glime a 'Y' " — Whadda we want? GAY POWER! When do we want it? NOW!

CSLD handed out a flyer that said: "Welcome to the First Anniversary celebration of the Gay Liberation Movement. We are united today to affirm our pride, our life-style, and our commitment to each other. Despite political and social differences we may have, we are united on this common ground: for the first time in history we are together as the homosexual community. This is the commitment that draws us together, let us not forget it throughout this, our day."

"Placing this commitment above all else, let nothing stand in our way. We are gay and proud. No one can convince us otherwise. Degrading remarks by hecklers or observers are not important enough to interfere with our goal and don't deserve a reaction...Every one of us is important. We are showing our strength and love for each other by coming here today. We are all participants in the most important gay event in history."

This is what we commemorate each Gay Pride Day — yes, we remember Stonewall, but we commemorate the action one year later that turned that riot into a movement to better the lives of all gay people. Don't sell it out, join us in remembering and being part of the Annual Reminder of our pride, our strength and our love for each other.



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The Whole Gay Catalog

For gay men and lesbians, their families and friends, this **THIRD EDITION** of **THE WHOLE GAY CATALOG** brings the world of lesbian and gay literature as close as your telephone or mailbox. Offers a multitude of **BOOKS, plus VIDEOS, RECORDS & TAPES, GIFTS, and more!** Over 100 pages, indexed. **ORDER YOURS NOW! FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING GAY AND LESBIAN BOOKSTORE!**

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CHURCH NEWS FROM THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE

AIDS BUDDY SYSTEM MCC is now training its second group of buddies for people with AIDS: The third Monday of every month the trainees meet at Springhill Hospital where social workers, mental health counselors, nurses, doctors, clergy and others help them learn about the needs of people with AIDS and how to meet those needs. Upcoming sessions include: Monday, May 18 - How to listen to someone in trouble; Monday, June 22 and 29 - Home nursing the person with AIDS.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE MCC will be presenting a six-week series on the Biblical passages which deal with homosexuality:

- August 4: About the Bible - what it is, how it was written, how it came to us
- August 11: Source/textual criticism and why and how we use them to study the historical/cultural background of the Bible
- August 18: "The Big Eight" - the Old Testament
- August 25: "The Big Eight" - the New Testament
- September 1: Contra Natura: how the church has traditionally viewed homosexuality
- September 8: "Free from the Law" - saved by grace, how the church is beginning to look at homosexuality in light of modern thought, psychology and spirituality.

HE'S RUNNING FOR AIDS Brent Nicholson Earle is a New York playwright, totally committed to bringing AIDS to the nation's attention. He will be in Mobile beginning Saturday, May 16, running 22 miles a day from New Orleans via Biloxi to be here. You can meet Brent Earle at the bars Saturday night, at MCC on Sunday night (May 17) or at Buddy training on Monday (May 18) at 7:30 P.M. Get involved! Buy a button or a t-shirt to help support this one man's effort to build visibility for AIDS research, treatment and humane treatment for persons with AIDS.

AIDS PRAYER VIGIL MCC at Mobile's annual Vigil of Prayer for persons with AIDS and act of remembrance for those who have died of AIDS will be held in Bienville Square in downtown Mobile, Wednesday, June 24 at 7:00 P.M. Music, prayer and a short memorial service will be held. Bring a candle for each person you want to remember.

GAY PRIDE SERVICE AT MCC Sunday evening, June 28, at 7:00, MCC's service will remember all the gay victims of Hitler's holocaust in our annual Gay Pride Memorial Service, in addition to remembering everyone who has been a martyr or a patriot to the cause of Gay Liberation. All are invited to attend.



DID YOU HEAR...

"I have very seldom seen one without make-up and hardly ever in my life without. *Tommy Ray Bakker, wife of disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, in the forthcoming book Christian Wives*

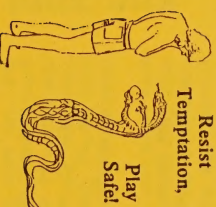
"The Gospel is not entertainment. It is very sober. *Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart, denouncing colleague Jim Bakker, president of the 17th Annual Christian Music Awards, upon revelation that Bakker had cheated on his wife and submitted to hysterical*

"You need by placing your story about Jim and Tommy Bakker under Religion. It belongs under Economy & Business or Show Business. The Bakkers have always been entrepreneurs, entertainers, and an obstacle to legitimate religion. *Letter to the Editor, Time (4/30/87)*

"Kids aren't dumb. People who underestimate the curiosity and intelligence of children are making a bad mistake. *Dr. Alan Koss, health expert at WNEV/Boston, on children's responses to AIDS messages on TV*

"Something is fun. It's kind of like being inside a three-dimensional video game. *Bedouin Commander Beth Hubert, US Navy pilot*

"I am the Surgeon General of the heterosexuals and the homosexual community, the married and the unmarried. I don't have the luxury of deciding which side I want to be on." *C. Everett Koop*



IT TAKES COURAGE TO ADMIT DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

1. "WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP MCC MOBILE GROW? Tell someone about us who doesn't know we're here. Every week someone says to me, 'I didn't know there was an MCC in Mobile.' Tell them."

2. Call people regularly who are absent from church, who are having problems, and who might be interested in getting into the church. Everyone likes to be told they're missed.
3. Take some of our newsletters or business cards to one of the bars and leave them for people to pick up. One place for the cards is the rest rooms. People seem to pick up all sorts of things there. Thank the bars for letting us put out our publicity.
4. Bring someone to church with you on Sunday. A lot of people would come but don't like to go anywhere alone the first time. Ask someone to come with you. *Gay/lesbians* A good time to come to church for the first time, isn't it?
5. Bring someone to the Gay Group. Even if people "aren't into church," they would probably enjoy the informality of the tapes, and the honesty of gay people talking about how it really is for them.
6. Be sure you welcome all new visitors who come to church for the first time and make them feel at home and want to return. MCC Mobile is full of real warm and friendly people, don't be afraid to let people see that.

FROM THE PASTOR — CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Sometimes church members — or more especially church attendees who have not gone through our new members' classes — ask us why we spend so much time talking about "gay rights" or "politics." One of the things we must answer at a time like that is that "that's part of what MCC is about." Each time someone visits the church we see to it that the warmer hands than a little red brochure called "The Universal Fellowship Today." In this brochure, there are varied explanations of MCC's beliefs, theology, and ministry — in its world-wide perspective.

The booklet says very clearly that Christian Social Action is one of the main emphases in MCC and quotes, "From the earliest days of MCC, involvement in Christian Social Action has been central to all of us, including our founder, Rev. Troy Perry."

"In the late 1960's and throughout the '70s, Troy Perry led marches, promoted demonstrations, staged sit-ins, and fasted in public to advance the cause of gay rights. As times changed, Rev. Perry and MCC members became active in additional approaches to gaining freedom from the oppression they felt had long been perpetrated on gay people. For example, the moral strength and united effort of MCC in California is felt by many to have been a major factor in the passage of the gay rights bill in the state's Assembly in 1975, sponsored by Willie Brown and signed into law by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr."

"The UPNCC opened the first gay and lesbian information office in Washington, D.C. in 1975. In 1976 we joined with leaders in the gay and lesbian community in the United States to establish the Gay Rights National Lobby in the national capital."

"In 1977, Rev. Perry fasted to raise \$100,000 to begin the fight against the 'Bridges Initiative' which became Proposition 6 in California. That Proposition would have required the firing of openly gay teachers and their supporters. It was one of the most repressive pieces of legislation to ever be introduced in the United States. Rev. Perry led the fight to defeat the proposition and it was defeated in November of 1978."

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Continued on p. 4

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FL Lauderdale	414	Tennessee	1,075
Texas	1,134	Tennessee	1,053
Houston	641	Kentucky	979
Dallas	641	North Carolina	979
New Jersey	644	Missouri	944
New York	644	Utah	1,010
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	410		
Illinois	1,010		
Chicago	867		
Illinois	769		
Pennsylvania	754		
Philadelphia	614		
Georgia	562		
Atlanta	562		
Massachusetts	522		
District of Columbia	522		
Maryland	643		
Louisiana	426		
Connecticut	408		
Virginia	402		
Ohio	351		
Puerto Rico	351		
Missouri	216		
North Carolina	210		

ALABAMA?
75 LAST MONTH
108 THIS MONTH

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SUMMER 1987

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MAY 14-17	"Noises Off," Theatre USA/Drama Department, University of South Alabama, Monty L. Moore Theatre, St. Paul School, 815 PM.
MAY 15	John H. Chester Memorial Piano Competition, University of South Alabama Music Department, Humanities Building, Auditorium, 815 PM.
MAY 21	University of South Alabama Symphonie Band, concert, Seawater Theatre, 815 PM, 460-6135.
MAY 28-JUNE 3	"The Hasty Heart," Joe Jefferson, 11 South Garland Street, 815 PM and 2 PM Sunday matinee, dark house Monday 477-1534.
MAY 31	Schenman Music Club, "Music for Children," St. John's Episcopal Church, 230 PM, 452-1121, 342-4075.
JUNE 5-7, 12-14	"Theatre Tale Theatre," Pixie Players, Langan Park, 730 PM, 230 PM Sunday matinee, 344-1537.
JUNE 8	City of Mobile Symphonie Pops Band, Starflight Concert, 8 PM, Performing Arts Pavilion, Langan Park.
JUNE 10	

EYE-BALL ACTION—More in the endless saga of PTL, lobbyists Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker. Now it seems that Tammy Faye was carrying on with country and western singer-songwriter Gary Paxton, famous for his musical compositions *10-10-10* and *The Hotter Man*. Paxton, who produced Tammy's first two albums, *Heavenly Bodies* and *Love Is the Way*, was said to spend many a night with the singer. This, reported the *Los Angeles Times* last week, led Jimmy to reportedly ask the Paxton home and make threats to Baker. *Charisma*, a Pentecostal magazine, reported that this is what happened: "After a few days of sexual trysts with Jessica Hahn, also this week, relations with Tammy were resumed, only having sex with Baker by another fundamentalist preacher who's after Hahn's sex with Hahn himself, used to preach on television and radio." "God really ministered to us today," said the Bakker couple. "Yes, I need more rest the last night. This thing gets so weird by the minute, doesn't it?"

transgender activist group. Last January, two lesbians are arrested for conducting a protest against public opinion for kissing in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol. When they were released by the officer and asked for identification, an angry, 15-stoned woman told the officer that she was a lesbian. They reportedly were mistreated and ridiculed repeatedly while in custody. The next week, several hundred lesbians gathered at the site of the arrest and staged a protest. The peaceful protest saw the women chanting slogans of gay and lesbian opinion and encouraging passers-by to kiss

DYNAMICS of BIBLICAL FAITH

Faith is not something totally intellectual, like finding the answer to a math problem. The old priest in "The Exorcist" came close to the idea of biblical faith when he said:

"I think belief in God is not a matter of reason at all; I think it finally is a matter of love, accepting the possibility that God could love us."

Biblical faith is loving trust in God—even in the face of intellectual difficulties. For example, when God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, Abraham's human reason told him that Isaac was the vehicle by which God's earlier promises to him would be carried out. Had he relied solely on reason, he would have put aside his trust in God. But he DID NOT. He chose to trust even in the face of deep intellectual turmoil.

Because biblical faith involved loving trust, it also demanded personal risk. A good example today is the uncertainty in relationships. Neither can be absolutely sure the other person will be there should major difficulties arise. We have no intellectual certainty.

Biblical faith was something like this. It always involved a knowledge gap that loving trust alone could bridge.

Biblical faith is pictured as an ongoing process. The biggest mistake a person can make is to think that some day s/he will "get the faith" and never have any more questions about it.

Psychology makes an interesting observation here. Consider this statement by a young man: "One day I decided to make God the center of my life. This decision gave me unbelievable peace and joy. But, two days later, I did something that no believer would ever do. I was totally discouraged and concluded that I had not really committed myself to God at all. I had only psyched myself into believing I had." But then I

realized something important. I realized that when we commit ourselves to God, we commit only that part of ourselves which we are aware of at the moment. That's all anyone can do."

The remarkable thing about is that after being in doubt or totally lost for a time, faith recovered or faith renewed is often much stronger and more powerful.

This is why we in MCC who have been through our faith crises and intellectual dilemmas and regained our belief, or gained new beliefs which have grown out of our past faith, have an unshakable faith which nothing can move. We have proved for ourselves the claim that Father Mark Link makes [above] in These Stones Will Shout.

THANK YOU, MOBILE GAY COMMUNITY
AND ESPECIALLY GOLDEN ROD & THE
SOCIETY LOUNGE FOR RAISING \$6000
FOR THE
MOBILE AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM !!!!

A form of gay oppression, which takes its origin from an Eastern European term which referred to quarters inhabited by Jews by requirement and enforcement, now used for any section of a city in which an oppressed group is confined (either by regulation or by social pressure); often a neglected and run down section which the oppressed people take over as their own and occupy so that the community reflects their lifestyle, but often an enforced segregation from the larger society.

GENTRIFICATION:

The willing take-over of a run-down area by middle and upper class people; reclaiming a slum area -- unfortunately often pushing out poorer inhabitants by escalating property values beyond their ability to afford housing in the area. However, gays have often been able to reclaim abandoned areas in a positive way that does not damage other oppressed people. (Suggestion for downtown Mobile, anyone: (Biblical) A burnt offering. Used of the Hitler regime's annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews, Gypsies, Gays, political dissidents and other oppressed people whom Hitler destroyed in a wide-ranging rampage of personal hatred of people he identified as "other" or "different." The demand for full opportunity for integration (whether we take it or not) of our whole selves into the large society along the lines of our choosing and talents, and for the same privileges and protection to be extended to the relationships, organizations, and institutions of gay and lesbian people as are extended to the heterosexual's relationships, organizations, and institutions. (Gayer)

HOMOPHILE:

A lover of gay people; the desire to be with, enjoy the association with gay/lesbian people in a positive environment.

HOMOPHILE MOVEMENT:

Used especially of the early Gay Rights Movement, dating as early as 1897 in the U.S. and especially in the 1920's in Germany, France and Scandinavian countries -- predates Stonewall by many years.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION:

(Sometimes called Feminism). In 1838, Sarah Moore Grimke, late to be one of the leading abolitionists with Angelina Grimke Weld, said "I ask no favors for my sex, all I ask of my brethren is that they take their feet from off our necks." The social, civil, religious, and sexual equality of women; social justice and freedom from fear for all women. Many lesbians feel that their issues are best addressed by women's liberation.

ACTIVIST:

A person who accepts personal responsibility for making changes in a social group based upon a philosophy of economic, social, moral and political awareness and then acting upon those beliefs.

GAY PRIDE

TALKING LIBERATION

Sometimes we find that people don't know what we're talking about when we used terms that have currency in the Gay Community; for all of you who have asked we supply this glossary.

HOMOSEXUAL:

Being woman-identified in one's affectional, sexual and social preferences, if one is a woman.

CLOSET:

A small or enclosed room used primarily for storage, unfortunately used by many as a place of hiding from the realities of life; closetedness implies an attempt to conceal one's gayness from the world.

GAY:

Being "gay" means having freed oneself of misgivings over being homosexual; it means being free to investigate one's preferences and desires in sexual roles as one chooses without having to justify or account for it. (Weinberg)

GAY IDENTITY:

A positive perception of oneself as a homosexual (free of shame, guilt, regret and free of the need for self-inquisition and then joining with other gay people to form community).

GAY PRIDE:

Positive gay identification; used by gay activists to describe the political, social, economic and personal changes which gay people have made in themselves and society since the late 1960's.

HOMOPHOBIA:

A word coined by George Weinberg (Society and the Healthy Homosexual) for prejudice against homosexuals, defined as "the dread of being in close quarters with homosexuals, and in the case of homosexuals themselves, self-loathing. Also, the revulsion toward homosexuals and often the desire to inflict punishment as retribution."

HOMOPHOBIC:

Dr. Alice Fennessay, Columbia University, has found that most homophobes (see above definition) are largely white, predominantly male, mostly married, largely lower class, most often parents, and often violent. This violence tends to be directed toward those targets most available, obvious, and least able to defend themselves. Three layers of penalty operate in society's homophobic oppression: 1. The overt penalties such as being fired from employment, imprisoned, expelled from family, church, housing, or being confined and/or treated as mentally ill.

2. The constant insecurity of knowing that overt penalties may be invoked. These penalties often apply only until the hiding is over. Their real cause is to keep people hiding what homophobes do not choose to deal with or which frighten them.

3. The repression of awareness of the homosexual parts of oneself and the substitution of a facade of heterosexuality in self and society. (Marcia Geyer: Homophobia and Human Rights.)

OPPRESSION SICKNESS:

The internalization of homophobic attitudes by gay/lesbian people and the embodiment of those negative feelings in self-destructive acts, neurotic and self-defeating behavior (suicide, alcoholism, drug-use, etc.) and lateral hostility toward gay/lesbian people and other oppressed groups.

LATERAL OPPRESSION:

The invoking of penalties, repression and sanctions by one oppressed group against another oppressed group; i.e. repression of women by gay men, blacks by gays, women by black men, people of color by white women, etc.

Dr. John Boswell, Yale historian recently compared the church's response to AIDS with that of the Middle Ages' church to the bubonic plague.

He reported documented cases of monasteries locking their doors and killing anyone who tried to get in during a plague outbreak.

Dr. Boswell claims we are still suffering the theological damage this reaction caused. He warned that the church's response to AIDS may well determine what kind of Christian church moves into the 21st century.

He documented the way disease and sin have been related in Western thought and the overwhelming incidence of blaming the victims of catastrophe for their suffering.

The historian noted that in the case of leprosy, however, "there is a cherisher counter tradition....[in that] when Jesus cured lepers he touched them--didn't sprinkle holy water from a distance or suggest that by saying the right words they'd be cured--he touched them, which is what they needed most."

Dr. Boswell spoke from his wealth of knowledge when he called people with AIDS "the most alone of any people in history".



*moving??
Be sure to
give me your
new address!*

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EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

MCC IS PEOPLE
CARING
ABOUT PEOPLE

we do not condemn
we do not condone
we try to understand

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

I've always been a big fan of television evangelists: they support my suspicion that there's absolutely no hope for the human species. A case in point: a year or so ago, I tuned in the channel to find a certain evangelist standing next to his rather glum-looking wife, who was named something like Peggy Mae or Emma Jane. The electronic preacher (decked out in a \$500 suit) and his wife (wearing thousands of \$\$\$ in gems) were bewailing and bemoaning the fact that his show about to go down a financial black hole.

"Emma Jane and I have tried e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g," he pitched. "We've prayed. We've fasted. Why, at one point my beloved Emma Jane became so distraught that she had a nervous breakdown, and we had to put her into the hospital!"

At that time, I thought making bucks from your wife's nervous breakdown was probably the most extreme fund-raising tactic possible, but Oral Roberts has now apparently surpassed it with his recent call for \$4.5 million. Well, Oral received his money and we can therefore assume that he will not be "called home," as he aired it. What I want to know is: does Oral have to pay the Ultimate Penalty for bounced checks?

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Here we go with the second edition of the revived MCC at Mobile newsletter. Please be advised that two major activities of MCC, the Wednesday night rap discussion group, and the Thursday night Bible study, will be suspended during the month of June to accomodate vacations, travel time, summer study and a much needed rest for our pastor. Services will, of course, continue weekly on Sunday afternoons at 7:00 P.M. Until further notice we will continue meeting at 4500 Bit and Spur Road in lovely West Mobile. This is a combined May-June issue of the newsletter; the next issue will be a combined July-August edition and you should look for it around the 4th of July. If you wish to submit items for publication --- classifieds, advertisements, a plug for your business or a recently read book or a recently viewed film, whatever --- kindly send it to me, Ron, the editor, at P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685 before July 1. I will be off to Europe shortly thereafter and I want to complete the newsletter before my departure.

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I would like to encourage you to support the Mobile AIDS Fund by attending the weekly Bingo games. They are held Mondays at 8:00 PM and rotate each week between the downtown bars. And while I'm on the subject of bars -- has anyone else heard a rumor about the impending opening of a new bar in either West Mobile or the USA section??? It seems many people "heard about it" but nobody seems to know what, where, when.

Have a lovely May and June, and remember to play safe!

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